

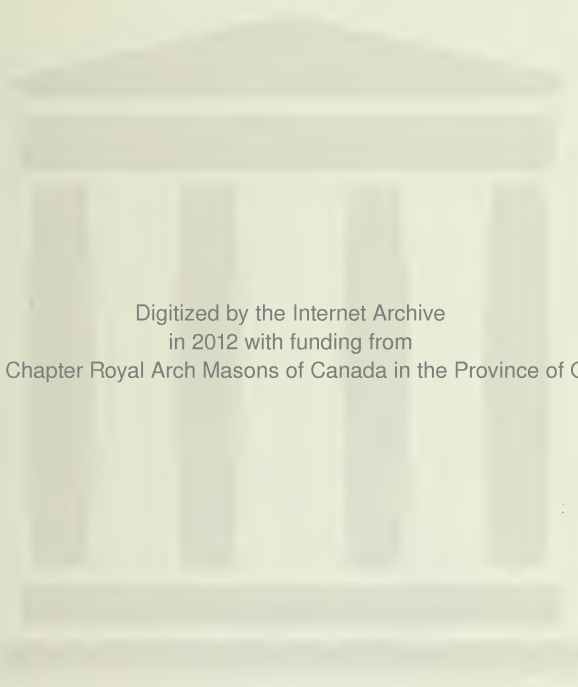
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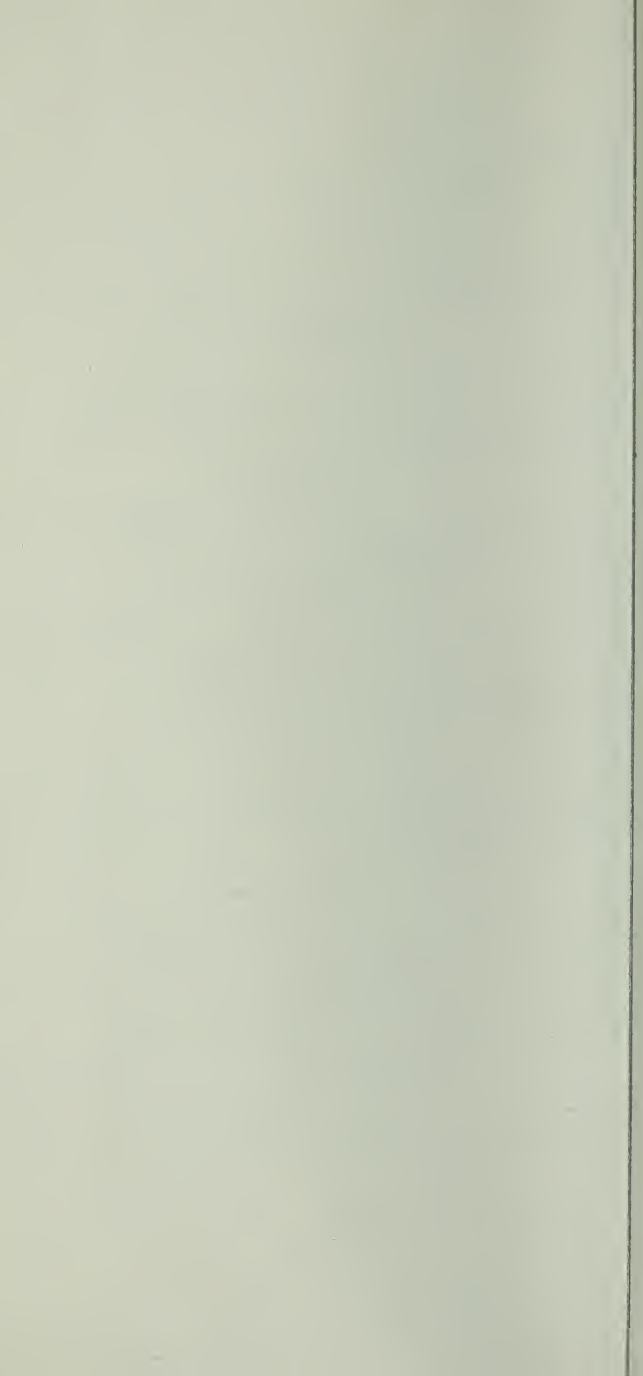
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1880.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

OF CANADA,

AT ITS

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD IN THE

Masonic Hall, Wyndham Street,
CITY OF GUELPH,



Friday, the 16th Day of July,
A. D. 1880, A. L. 2410, A. L. 5380

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED.

ADDRESS:—DANIEL SPRY, BARRIE, ONT., GRAND Z.

DAVID McLELLAN, HAMILTON, ONT., GRAND SCRIBE E.

1880.

J. B. TRAYES, PRINTER, CRAFTSMAN STEAM PRESS, PORT HOPE, ONT.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Twenty-Third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, Wyndham Street, in the City of Guelph, on Friday, the 16th day of July, A.D. 1880, A.I. 2410.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry, Barrie,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. E.	Donald Ross, Pieton,	H.	
"	H. Macpherson, Owen Sound,	J.	

On the Throne.

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan, Hamilton,	Grand Scribe E.
"	J. J. Mason, Hamilton, as	Scribe N.
E.	C. H. Slawson, Ingersoll, as	Prin. Soj.
R. E.	R. J. Hovenden, Toronto, as	Treasurer.
"	John McLaren, Mount Forest,	Registrar.
V. E.	C. W. Brown, Toronto,	1st Asst. Soj.
"	A. Cameron, Owen Sound,	2nd "
"	John Moore, Ottawa,	Sword Br.
"	John Inglis, Guelph,	Stand. "
E.	John W. Coy, St. Catharines, as	Dir of Cer.
"	W. L. Tackaberry, Chatham, as	Organist.
"	J. Ross Robertson, Toronto, as	Pursuivant.
V. E.	Ichabod Baker, Stratford,	Steward.
"	William Watson, Orangeville,	"
"	J. E. Tamlyn, Wingham,	"
E.	Hugh Walker, Guelph, as	"
"	W. W. Summers, Hamilton,	Janitor.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

R.E. Comp.	Rev. St. Geo. Caulfeild,	Windsor, London	Dist.
" "	Chas. L. Beard,	Woodstock, Wilson	"
" "	H. K. Maitland,	Guelph, Wellington	"
" "	J. M. Meakins,	Hamilton, Hamilton	"
" "	I. F. Toms,	Goderich, Huron	"
" "	Geo. Walker,	Beamsville, Niagara	"
" "	James B. Nixon,	Toronto, Toronto	"
" "	Chas. Doebler,	Port Hope, Ontario	"

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	P. G. Z., St. Catharines.
" "	Fred. J. Menet,	" " Toronto.
R. E.	Wm. H. Weller,	" H., Cobourg.
" "	Thos. C. Macnabb,	" H., Chatham.
" "	James Moffatt,	" J., London.
" "	Henry Robertson,	" J., Collingwood.
" "	Thomas Sargant,	" Supt., Toronto.
" "	W. D. Hepburn,	" " Preston.
" "	Jas. Wilson,	" " Toronto.
" "	R. J. Hovenden,	" " "
" "	A. G. Smyth,	" " London.
" "	J. J. Mason,	" R., Hamilton.
" "	F. R. Despard,	" S. N., "

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. E. Comp.	Jas. Seymour,	from Gr. Chap. of Indiana.
" "	" "	" Iowa.
" "	Daniel Spry,	" New Jersey.
" "	" "	" Quebec.
" "	" "	" Vermont.
R. E.	Henry Robertson,	" Dist. of Col.
" "	" "	" New York.
" "	" "	" Mississippi.
" "	Henry Macpherson,	" California.
" "	David McLellan,	" Georgia.
" "	" "	" Pennsylvania

R. E. Comp. W. H. Weller, from Gr. Chap. of Wisconsin.
 “ “ J. J. Mason, “ Nevada.

PAST FIRST PRINCIPALS.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour.	R. E. Comp.	James Lockie.
“	“ Fred. J. Menet.	“	“ James Wilson.
“	“ Daniel Spry.	“	“ St. G. Caulfeild.
R. E.	“ W. H. Weller.	“	“ J. M. Meakins.
“	“ T. C. Macnabb.	“	“ F. R. Despard.
“	“ Donald Ross.	“	“ R. J. Hovenden.
“	“ James Moffatt.	“	“ A. G. Smyth.
“	“ H. Macpherson.	E.	“ W. Hawthorne.
“	“ H. Robertson.	V. E.	“ C. W. Brown.
“	“ W. D. Hepburn.	R. E.	“ J. M. Gibson.
“	“ H. A. Baxter.	E.	“ E. A. Vidal.
“	“ David McLellan.	V. E.	“ John Moore.
“	“ Wm. Forbes.	R. E.	“ C. L. Beard.
“	“ J. J. Mason.	“	“ Geo. Walker.
“	“ J. B. Nixon.	V. E.	“ I. Baker.
“	“ J. G. Burns.	“	“ John Nettleton.
“	“ Thos. Sargant.	“	“ John Ferguson.
“	“ Isaac F. Toms.	E.	“ Alfred Taylor.
“	“ John McLaren.	V. E.	“ John Inglis.
E.	“ C. H. Slawson.	E.	“ Alex. Irvine.
E.	“ Geo. W. Morgan.	E.	“ J. E. Harrison.
E.	“ Robt. Mackay,	E.	“ Wm. Watson.
V. E.	“ Allan Cameron.	V. E.	“ J. E. 'Tamlyn.

A Constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in *Ample Form* at 10 a. m.

R. E. Comp. R. J. Hovenden, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there were seventy-seven Chapters on the Roll of Grand Chapter, of

No. 8. KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER, TORONTO.

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry,	P.Z.
" " "	F. J. Menet,	P.Z.
R. " "	David McLellan,	P.Z.
" " "	J. G. Burns,	P.Z.
" " "	Thos. Sargent,	P.Z.
" " "	James B. Nixon,	P.Z.
" " "	J. Ross Robertson,	Z.
" " "	Alex. Patterson,	J.

No. 10. NEW BRUNSWICK CHAPTER, ST. JOHN, N. B.

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	P.Z., Proxy.
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No. 11. ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, ST. ANDREW'S, N. B.

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	P.Z., Proxy.
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No. 12. CATARAQUI CHAPTER, KINGSTON.

E. Comp.	John H. Birkett,	H.
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No. 15. WAWANOSH CHAPTER, SARNIA.

E. Comp.	E. A. Vidal,	Z.
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No. 16. CARLETON CHAPTER, OTTAWA.

V. E. Comp.	John Moore,	P.Z., Proxy.
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No. 18. OXFORD CHAPTER, WOODSTOCK.

R. E. Comp.	C. L. Beard,	P.Z.
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No. 19. MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, ST. CATHARINES.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	P.Z.
R. " "	Geo. Walker,	P.Z.
" " "	John W. Coy,	Z.

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

No. 23.

EZRA CHAPTER, SIMCOE.

E. Comp. G. F. Counter, H.

No. 24.

TECUMSEH CHAPTER, STRATFORD.

V. E. Comp.	Ichabod Baker,	P.Z.
" "	George J. Waugh,	Z.
" "	J. L. Richmond,	J.

No. 27.

MANITOU CHAPTER, COLLINGWOOD.

R. E. Comp.	Henry Macpherson,	P.Z.
" " "	Henry Robertson,	P.Z.
" " "	John Nettleton,	P.Z.
V. " "	John Ferguson,	P.Z.
" "	Frank B. Gregory,	Z.

No. 28.

PENTALPHA CHAPTER, OSHAWA.

E. Comp. Philip Taylor, Z.

No. 29.

M'CALLUM CHAPTER, DUNNVILLE.

M. E. Comp. Jas. Seymour, P. Z., Proxy.

No. 30.

HURON CHAPTER, GODERICH.

R. E. Comp.	I. F. Toms,	P. Z.
" "	R. Ratcliffe,	J.

No. 31.

PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, PICTON.

R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. Z.

No. 32.

WATERLOO CHAPTER, GALT.

E. Comp.	Alfred Taylor,	P. Z.
"	I. Eby,	H.

No. 34.

SIGNET CHAPTER, BARRIE.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. Z.

- No. 36. CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, PETERBORO'.
 E. Comp. E. H. D. Hall, Z.
- No. 37. VICTORIA CHAPTER, PORT HOPE.
 E. Comp. Thos. Hewson, Z.
 R. " " Chas. Doeblor, P. Z.
- No. 38. SEYMOUR CHAPTER, BRADFORD.
 M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. Z., Proxy.
- No. 40. GUELPH CHAPTER, GUELPH.
 E. Comp. Hugh Walker, Z.
 " " John Scoon, H.
 R. " " H. K. Maitland, P. Z.
 V. " " John Inglis, P. Z.
 " " D. Kennedy, P. Z.
 R. " " W. D. Hepburn, P. Z.
 " " Allan McIntyre, P. H.
- No. 41. HARRIS CHAPTER, INGERSOLL.
 E. Comp. C. H. Slawson, Z.
- No. 44. MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER, NAPANEE.
 R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. Z.
- No. 47. WELLINGTON CHAPTER, CHATHAM.
 E. Comp. W. L. Tackaberry, Z.
 R. " " Thomas C. Macnabb, P. Z.
- No. 48. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, COBOURG.
 R. E. Comp. W. H. Weller, P. Z.
- No. 49. ELORA CHAPTER, ELORA.
 R. E. Comp. John McLaren, P. Z.

No. 50.

SAUGEEN CHAPTER, WALKERTON.

E. Comp. Joseph Craig,	Z.
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No. 54.

DE WARRENNE CHAPTER, ST. THOMAS.

E. Comp. Geo. W. Morgan,	P. Z.
“ Robt. Mackay,	P. Z.

No. 55.

NIAGARA CHAPTER, NIAGARA.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour,	P. Z.
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No. 56.

GEORGIAN CHAPTER, OWEN SOUND.

R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson,	P. Z.
V. “ “ Allan Cameron,	P. Z.

No. 62.

YORK CHAPTER, EGLINTON.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry,	P. Z.
R. “ “ Thos. Sargant,	P. Z.
“ “ “ Jas. B. Nixon,	P. Z.

No. 65.

ONTARIO CHAPTER, YORKVILLE.

M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet,	P. Z.
V. E. Comp. C. W. Brown,	P. Z.

No. 67.

ENTERPRISE CHAPTER, HARRISTON.

R. E. Comp. John McLaren,	P. Z.
E. “ Alex. Irvine,	P. Z.

No. 68.

MAITLAND CHAPTER, MAITLAND.

V. E. Comp. John Moore,	Z.
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No. 69.

GRIMSBY CHAPTER, GRIMSBY.

R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes,	P. Z.
E. “ G. H. Hewson,	H.
E. “ E. E. Loosley,	J.

- No. 70. GRAND RIVER CHAPTER, WATERLOO.
R. E. Comp. James Lockie. Z.
- No. 71. PRINCE OF WALES CHAPTER, AMHERSTBURG.
E. Comp. Geo. Green, Z.
- No. 74. BEAVER CHAPTER, STRATHROY.
R. E. Comp. H. A. Baxter, P. Z.
- No. 75. ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, MILTON.
E. Comp. J. E. Harrison, P. Z.
" " J. A. Frazer, P. H.
- No. 76. MOUNT NEBO CHAPTER, DRUMMONDVILLE.
M. E. Comp. James Seymour, P. Z.
- No. 77. OCCIDENT CHAPTER, TORONTO.
R. E. Comp. James Wilson, Z.
M. E. " Daniel Spry, P. Z.
" " F. J. Menet, P. Z.
R. E. " R. J. Hovenden, P. Z.
R. E. " Thos. Sargent, P. Z.
E. " Wm. Watson, P. Z.
- No. 79. ORIENT CHAPTER, TORONTO.
E. Comp. F. Gallow, Z.
E. " J. K. Brydon, J.
M. E. " F. J. Menet, P. Z.
" " Daniel Spry, P. Z.
R. E. " J. G. Burns, P. Z.
" " Thos. Sargent, P. Z.
" " J. B. Nixon, P. Z.
- No. 80. ARK CHAPTER, WINDSOR.
R. E. Comp. Rev. St. G. Caulfeild, P. Z.

No. 82. SHUNIAH CHAPTER, PRINCE ARTHUR'S LANDING.

R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms,	P. Z., Proxy.
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No. 83. IONIC CHAPTER, ORANGEVILLE.

E. Comp. Wm. Watson,	Z.
R. E. " Thos. Sargent,	P. Z.
" " James Wilson,	P. Z.

No. 84. LEBANON CHAPTER, WINGHAM.

V. E. Comp. J. E. Tamlyn,	Z.
E. " W. T. Bray,	J.

U. D. MACPHERSON CHAPTER, MEAFORD.

E. Comp. Thos. McCarroll,	Z.
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U. D. WENTWORTH CHAPTER, DUNDAS.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan,	P. Z.
" " J. M. Meakins,	P. Z.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. J. HOVENDEN,	} Committee.
JOHN McLAREN,	
ALEX. BRUCE.	

On motion of R. E. Comp. R. J. Hovenden, seconded by R. E. Comp. John McLaren, the report of the Committee on the Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing during the session of the Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the Rules and Regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business.

The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of the proceedings of the Twenty-second Annual Convocation,

held in the City of Guelph, on the 13th day of August, A. D. 1879, A. I. 2409, when it was moved by V. E. Comp. John Moore, and seconded by M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, and resolved:—

That, as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 13th day of August, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes thereof be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

ADDRESS OF THE M. E. THE GRAND Z.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

GREETING:

COMPANIONS,—It is with more than ordinary pleasure that we, in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, assemble together in this the Twenty-third Annual Convocation, for the purpose of reviewing the labours of the past year, and to perform such other duties as may devolve upon us as the representatives and legislators of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction. I am gratified to be in a position to state that Capitular Masonry in Canada, as elsewhere, is in an exceedingly prosperous condition; that the utmost harmony prevails, and that no serious question of a disturbing nature has been brought under my notice, to mar our happiness. The change made by which our Annual Convocations are for the future to be held during the same week as the Grand Lodge, Great Priory of Knights Templar, and other Masonic bodies, will, I trust, be of considerable advantage, as it will permit of a larger attendance of representatives, and will give Grand Chapter the benefit of the experience and knowledge of many learned Companions who have done good service to the Craft in other branches of Freemasonry.

It will also assist to draw closer together those who are

desirous of confining their pursuit of Masonic knowledge to pure Ancient Craft Masonry, of which the Royal Arch Degree forms the most essential part, and which "is more august, sublime, and important than any which precede it, and is, in fact, the summit and perfection of Ancient Masonry."

The large number of intelligent men, from every rank of life, who have during the present week withdrawn, for a period, from their several busy vocations, for the purpose of taking counsel together, in the interest of the fraternity, exemplifies in the strongest possible manner the powerful influence which Freemasonry has over its votaries. It points out to those who are skeptical regarding its usefulness, that unless the institution was founded on the purest principles of piety and virtue, and its members had an unswerving faith in the approval of the *Great I Am*, our labours would be in vain.

Inviting your earnest consideration to the business which may be brought before you, I shall proceed to report my official acts during the past year.

NEW CHAPTERS.

Applications were received, and Dispensations have been issued, for two new Chapters, viz:—"Macpherson," Meaford, County of Grey, 31st December, 1879; "Wentworth," Dundas, County of Wentworth, 6th March, 1880. In each case the application was recommended by the Grand Superintendent of the District within whose jurisdiction the Chapter would be situated, and the Dispensations were not issued until the most careful enquiry had been made, as to the ability of the Companions who were to occupy the principal positions, and the prospect of suitable material being had to sustain the Chapters.

I have taken this precaution, as it is not in the true inter-

est of Capitular Masonry to permit new Chapters to be opened where there is the slightest danger of injuring those already in existence.

SURRENDERING A WARRANT.

Keystone Chapter, No. 72, St. Thomas, made application for permission to surrender its Warrant, as the members desired to unite with De Warrenne Chapter, No. 54. After having obtained a petition, signed by the members, and being fully satisfied that all private rights had been protected, I accepted of the surrender, and the Warrant is now in the custody of the Grand Scribe E., awaiting your decision as to its further disposal. I would suggest that it be cancelled, as it is quite evident that one Chapter is sufficient, at present, for the requirements of the town of St. Thomas.

SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS.

As usual, numerous applications have been received for dispensations to permit companions to be installed as Principals without having previously served in the other offices required by the Constitution. As I understood the opinion of Grand Chapter to be unfavorable to the extensive use of this prerogative by the Grand Z., I have, in deference to such opinion, declined to grant several of these applications. The following, however, were issued:—

To instal as Z. not having served as W. M.	-	3
“ Z. “ “ H.	-	6
“ H. “ “ J.	-	4

I have insisted upon such applications being forwarded to me through the Grand Superintendents of the Districts, with their opinions thereon, as they are the proper parties to give advice as to the necessity which may exist for complying with the request of the applicants. In one case, I regret to say, an effort was made to induce me to alter my decision

by re-electing a Companion to an office after I had declined to grant a dispensation to permit of his installation.

UNIFORMITY OF WORK.

Great differences exist in the rendering of the Ritual and the manner of conferring the several Degrees by the various Chapters, and the necessity for demanding more careful attention to the strict letter of the work authorized by the Grand Chapter is very pressing, as greater uniformity is much to be desired.

The Committee on the Ritual of the Mark, Past and Most Excellent Masters Degrees, are ready to report, and so soon as their action has been approved by Grand Chapter, we will have a complete authorized Ritual and no further innovations should be permitted. Grand Superintendents of Districts are required to give this important subject their earnest consideration, with a view to secure that uniformity in work which is so desirable. I understand that some First Principals of Chapters allow visiting Companions, or Members, to take part in the ceremonies, who do not work according to the recognized Ritual. This should not be permitted, as it is a clear dereliction of duty on the part of the presiding officer of a Chapter to permit any lecture, charge or part of a ceremony to be given in his Chapter which is not in accordance with that laid down by Grand Chapter.

SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

My attention has been forcibly directed to the large and increasing number of Companions annually suspended by Subordinate Chapters for non-payment of dues, and the time has arrived when Grand Chapter, in the true interests of Capitular Masonry, should deal with this important and difficult subject, with a view to prevent the reckless and indiscriminate slaughter of every Companion who cannot meet the demands made upon him. To those who are unable to pay, it is apparently said—

“Plank down, plank your shekels,
Don't say you can't afford;
You had better let other Creditors wait,
Than try to cheat the Lord.”

“For God loveth a cheerful giver,
No matter, down with the dust,
Pay freely, willingly, if you choose,
But anyhow, pay you must.”

Companions who possess the means of paying and *will not*, deserve but little consideration; but as to those who are willing to pay, but for want of means *cannot*, it is the refinement of cruelty to cut them off from Masonic fellowship with their Companions, for an offence that is not a crime, but a misfortune. If as much energy were displayed in quietly ascertaining the ability of our members to meet the demands made upon them, as is sometimes exhibited by Companions who possess more zeal than discretion in “touting” for candidates to join the Chapters, there would be less suspensions for non-payment of dues, or indeed for any other cause.

SUSPENSIONS BY A LODGE DOES NOT AFFECT CHAPTER.

The decision given by some of my predecessors, “that suspension by a Craft Lodge does not affect the standing of the Companion in the Chapter,” has led to considerable discussion among Royal Arch Masons. It is claimed, and apparently with much reason, that a member under suspension by a Lodge should not be permitted to remain in good standing in a Chapter, as it is not consistent with the honor and dignity of the Royal Craft that suspended Masons should be permitted to associate on terms of equality in the Chapter with those who cannot meet them in a Lodge. Nor can I avoid calling your attention to the fact that a Companion might meet with us to-day in Grand Chapter, who could not have met with us *yesterday* in Grand Lodge, being at the time under suspension by a Lodge. It can hardly be con-

ducive to the well-being of Capitular Masonry, to permit such a state of matters to continue, and I cannot believe it to be right. I invite your careful consideration of this question, feeling assured that after you have done so, Grand Chapter will declare that suspension by a Lodge for unmasonic conduct, carries with it the penalty of suspension in the Chapter without further trial.

DECISIONS.

It is quite customary to ask the Grand Z.'s decisions upon questions that can easily be decided by a Grand Superintendent of a District. The Constitution declares that upon certain matters a Grand Superintendent's "decision is final, unless an appeal is made therefrom to the Grand Z., or Grand Chapter," and it is, therefore, manifestly unfair and disrespectful to that officer to ask for the decision or opinion of the Grand Z. upon any question before submitting the point in dispute to the Grand Superintendent of the District where the parties reside. To prevent, as far as possible, a continuance of this custom, I have requested Companions who have submitted such questions to me, to transmit them through their Grand Superintendent, as it is proper that he should have an opportunity of expressing an opinion upon all such disputed questions arising in the District over which he is the Chief Officer.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

I have officially visited the following Chapters:—

The Hiram, No. 2,	-	-	-	Hamilton.
St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4,	-	-	-	Toronto.
St. John's, No. 6,	-	-	-	Hamilton,
King Solomon's, No. 8,	-	-	-	Toronto.
Signet, No. 34,	-	-	-	Barrie.
Georgian, No. 56,	-	-	-	Owen Sound.
Orient, No. 79,	-	-	-	Toronto.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., the Grand Principal Sojourner, and other Grand Officers, accompanied me on different occasions. Although my reception was most cordial at each visit, members of the Hiram and St. John's Chapters, Hamilton, extended to me so enthusiastic a welcome, that I would be wanting in appreciation if I did not make special mention of it. On this occasion, R. E. Comp. J. M. Meakins, the indefatigable Grand Superintendent of the District, installed the officers of the two Chapters above named, and those of St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, Milton. The well-established reputation of the Hamilton Companions for courteous treatment of their guests, was fully maintained, and I shall not soon forget the exceedingly pleasant evening spent in a city where Freemasonry has so deservedly high a reputation.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Although on friendly terms with all other Grand Chapters and Masonic bodies, my attention was directed to the neglect to exchange representatives with many of them. This omission has been supplied by the appointment of the following Companions as our Representatives near the Grand Chapters named:

Alabama	Ex. Comp.	J. H. Johnson.
Arkansas	" "	Geo. D. Kimball.
Colorado	" "	Ben. F. Wells.
Connecticut	" "	W. R. Higby.
Delaware	" "	Geo. F. Young.
Indiana	" "	Elisha L. McLallen.
Ireland	R. " "	J. H. Neilson.
Kansas	" "	Francis Menet.
Kentucky	M. " "	Howard R. French.
Louisiana	R. " "	Andrew Hero, jr.
Maine	M. " "	Andrew J. Fuller.
Maryland	" "	J. M. Carter.
Minnesota	R. " "	Orville G. Miller.

New Hampshire	R. Ex. Comp.	Alpheus W. Baker.
North Carolina.....	“ “	C. C. Clark.
Nova Scotia	V. “ “	Lorenzo F. Darling.
Rhode Island.....	R. “ “	W. R. Greene.
Oregon	“ “ “	Donald Mackay.
South Carolina.....	“ “ “	J. M. Bratten, M.D.
Texas	“ “ “	Henry Scherffius.

Scotland, Ex. Comp. Lord Inverurie, to fill the vacancy caused by the suspension of our former representative by the Grand Chapter of Scotland for un-Masonic conduct.

California, M. Ex. Comp. Nathan Weston Spalding, in place of R. Ex. Comp. Wiggins, who has been expelled for official misconduct.

Missouri, R. Ex. Comp. M. A. Fyke, to fill the vacancy caused by the untimely death of the much lamented Comp. Geo. Francis Gouley.

And the following Companions, members of this Grand Chapter, have been appointed as representatives of the Grand Chapters named:

R. Ex. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, Goderich, Grand Chapter of Alabama.

R. Ex. Comp. John McLaren, Mount Forest, Grand Chapter of Arkansas.

M. Ex. Comp. L. H. Henderson, Belleville, Grand Chapter of Colorado.

R. Ex. Comp. Donald Ross, Picton, Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

R. Ex. Comp. Thomas C. Macnabb, Chatham, Grand Chapter of Delaware.

R. Ex. Comp. James Moffat, London, Grand Chapter of Florida.

R. Ex. Comp. John M. Gibson, Hamilton, Grand Chapter of Kansas.

R. Ex. Comp. Thos. Sargant, Toronto, Grand Chapter of Kentucky.

R. Ex. Comp. Ed. Mitchell, Hamilton, Grand Chapter of Louisiana.

R. Ex. Comp. Rev. St. Geo. Caulfeild, Windsor, Grand Chapter of Maine.

R. Ex. Comp. James A. Henderson, Kingston, Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

R. Ex. Comp. Joshua George Burns, Toronto, Grand Chapter of Maryland.

M. Ex. Comp. Fred J. Menet, Toronto, Grand Chapter of Minnesota.

R. Ex. Comp. David McLellan, Hamilton, Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.

R. Ex. Comp. Jas. Wilson, Toronto, Grand Chapter of N. Carolina.

R. Ex. Comp. Rich. J. Hovenden, Toronto, Grand Chapter of Oregon.

Ex. Comp. John B. Traves, Port Hope, Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.

R. Ex. Comp. Rich. Brierley, Hamilton, Grand Chapter of Texas.

M. Ex. Comp. James Seymour, St. Catharines, Grand Mark Lodge of England & Wales.

In making these appointments I must confess that I have seriously considered whether there is any real necessity for Representatives, and if after all, it would not be well to dispense with them altogether and leave their duties to be performed by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. After maturely examining into the working of the system, I am of opinion that a Representative can be useful in many ways, and in order that the position might be improved, I would suggest that a clause be inserted in the Constitution, which would require every Representative of this Grand Chapter to submit an annual report to the Grand Z., prior to the meeting of Grand Chapter, on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction where he resides, and failure to do so for two years to render the position vacant. In this way the Grand Chapter would annually know something of the duties now performed by those esteemed Companions. And a Companion should not be permitted to represent more than one Grand Chapter.

MASONIC FUNERALS.

Some discussion has lately taken place in the Masonic press regarding the proper Masonic clothing to be worn at

the funeral of a deceased brother, and the place to be assigned in the procession to Royal Arch Masons and Masons who have attained to the higher degrees. There is no funeral ceremony in connection with Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction, and, although the Constitution permits the attendance at funerals of Royal Arch Masons properly clothed as such, it would be much better if *all* Freemasons would, on such occasions, appear in the more simple and appropriate clothing usually worn by Master Masons.

REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

The Committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation to revise the Constitution, have completed their labors, and the new Constitution, which has been prepared with much care, will be laid before you. I invite your most earnest consideration to this important matter, as good and wise laws, properly administered, have much to do with the efficient management of any institution.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

We are again indebted to R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson for an able and exhaustive Report on Foreign Correspondence. These reports continue to be read from year to year, with much care and attention, by those who desire to be familiar with Capitular Masonry in other jurisdictions.

FINANCES.

The receipts for the last year have been \$1,794.04, and the expenditure \$1,109.75, leaving a surplus of \$684.29.

As directed by Grand Chapter, \$1,500 has been invested by the purchase of paid up stock in the Toronto House Building Association, which increases our permanent investments to \$6,000. We have \$1,335.38 in cash on hand, of which the Ex. Committee will, I presume, recommend a further investment of \$1,000.

APPLICATION FOR RESTORATION.

Companion Peter Grant, of St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London, who was "expelled from all the rights, privileges, and benefits of Royal Arch Masonry" by Grand Chapter, at its Annual Convocation, held in Montreal, on 9th August, 1876, (see Proceedings of that year, page 123) made application to me to be restored. I declined to grant his request, as I am of opinion that Grand Chapter having expelled the Companion, it alone possesses the power to restore him to his former standing. The papers in connection with his case will be placed before you for consideration and action. I trust their examination will warrant his restoration to good standing, as an unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason, so that he may be in a position to make application for admission to membership in some R. A. Chapter.

GRAND SCRIBE E.

I desire to place on record my warm appreciation of the zeal and efficiency of my worthy friend, R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., who has discharged the duties pertaining to his office in a manner that warrants me in saying that Grand Chapter has in him an officer who carefully attends to the management of its affairs in an efficient manner.

Companions, in conclusion, let me thank you heartily for the generous support which you have extended to me during the past year, while I have, to the best of my ability, as your chief, endeavored to uphold the reputation of Grand Chapter, and to advance the interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

We may congratulate ourselves upon the high position Capitular Masonry has attained in this jurisdiction through the wisdom and foresight of those who so well and truly laid the foundation upon a solid basis, and may we, with an earnest desire to extend its usefulness, assist in elevating and aiding our fellow men, and fervently invoke the blessing of

the G. A. O. T. U., that He may guide, protect and bless us in all our undertakings.

DANIEL SPRY,
Grand Z.

Guelph, July 16, 1880.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, and resolved:—

That the address of the M. Ex. the Grand Z., be referred to the Executive Committee, to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

The following Reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented:—

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z. and Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry of Canada.

As an annual report upon the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Chapter, in the London District, I would state that in general they are in fair condition and working well, the few exceptions being attributable, perhaps altogether, to the want of a sufficient field of operations necessary to secure a large and powerful Chapter. This cause is seen working its effect in one Chapter especially of the District, whose case ought to be dealt with.

It is perhaps, therefore, rather a cause for rejoicing than sorrow, that no addition has this year been made to the number of our Chapters; that is if others will concur in my opinion that it is better not to have a Chapter than to have a poor half dead one.

I am happy to be able to state that no complaints of breach of Companionship have reached me, that all has been harmonious and peaceful.

I received a communication from one Chapter in reference to Ritual, and after corresponding with the Grand Scribe E., I requested a postponement of the subject until the meeting of Grand Chapter, when it is hoped some effort will be made towards reaching a uniform Ritual.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ST. GEO. CAULFEILD, L.L.D.,
Grand Superintendent of the London District.

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In submitting my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Wilson District for the past year, I am pleased to be able to say that both Oxford Chapter, No. 18, Woodstock, and Harris Chapter, No. 41, Ingersoll, are in a prosperous condition, and working well, the officers being both efficient and energetic.

I was disappointed in my arrangements for visiting Ezra Chapter, No. 23, Simcoe, especially as, I am sorry to say, it is not at present in a very satisfactory condition, but I trust that before long a different state of affairs will prevail. I have urged that the returns should be forwarded to Grand Chapter, as they were omitted last year, and I am informed that my request has been complied with.

As an evidence of the prosperity of the craft in Woodstock, I might observe that the Chapter and Lodges have made arrangements for removal to a handsome building now in course of erection, in a more central part of the town, in which the accommodation will be ample for many years to come.

It is expected that the opening of the new hall will take place in October next.

I am happy to say that no complaints have been laid before me.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. L. BEARD,

Grand Superintendent of Wilson District.

Woodstock, 15th July, 1880.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Principals, and Excellent Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Wellington District for the past year.

On the 2nd of February, I visited Waterloo Chapter, No. 32, Galt, whose affairs are managed with discretion and care, and enjoyed the well-known hospitality of the Companions.

On the 20th April, I visited Saugeen Chapter, No. 50, Walkerton, examined the books, found them neatly kept, and the Chapter in a more prosperous condition than it had been for some time.

In the month of October, I received a petition from the Companions of Grand River Chapter, No. 70, praying for the removal of their Chapter from Waterloo to Berlin, for which I granted a Dispensation; I also visited them on the 26th of April, examined the books and found them in a very satisfactory condition, and its members steadily increasing.

On the 26th May, I visited Elora Chapter, No. 49, Elora. This Chapter is not in the vigorous state that I should like to report, greatly owing to the removal of a number of members and the want of work for nearly a year.

On the 27th of June, I visited Ionic Chapter, No. 83, Orangeville, examined the books and found them in very good order.

On July 6th, I visited Enterprise Chapter, No. 67, Harrison, and with the assistance of Ex. Companions Irvine and McLaren, installed the officers, after which a very pleasant hour was spent.

Guelph Chapter, No. 40, Guelph, of which I am a member, is in a very prosperous condition and gradually adding to their numbers excellent material. On Friday, 9th of July, assisted by Ex. Comps. Inglis and Kennedy, I installed the officers, who, I have no doubt, will be faithful in the discharge of their duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. K. MAITLAND,

Grand Superintendent Wellington District.

Guelph, July 12th, 1880.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Excellent Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I take much pleasure in submitting the annual report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Hamilton District.

I have visited all of the Chapters in the District, and have much pleasure in reporting their continued prosperity.

The Hiram and St. John's Chapters, in the City of Hamilton, are still retaining their reputation of being well up in the Ritual of our beautiful degrees.

St. Clair Chapter, of the town of Milton, is progressing

favorably, and is now presided over by an Excellent Companion, who is well up in his work.

I was much pleased in February last on receiving an application for a new Chapter, from a number of Royal Arch Masons residing in or near the town of Dundas, on which application the M. E. the Grand Z. thought proper to grant a dispensation for, and on the 26th of March last, in company with a number of prominent Royal Arch Masons from Hamilton, I instituted the new Chapter, and installed the officers named in the Dispensation, and I have visited the Chapter at each of its regular meetings, and can testify both to the correctness of the work done, and to the zeal displayed by all the officers, and I am quite satisfied of the ultimate success of Wentworth Chapter.

At the regular Convocation of St. John's Chapter, No. 6, held in January last, at which time we were honored with the presence of the M. E. the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, I, with the assistance of a number of R. E. Companions, installed the officers of The Hiram, St. John's and St. Clair Chapters.

In conclusion, I have to thank both the officers and members of the various Chapters in the Hamilton District for the kindness and courtesy extended to me during my official visits.

I have not received any complaints during my official year, and, to the best of my knowledge, the very best of feeling exists among Royal Arch Masons in this District.

Fraternally submitted.

J. M. MEAKINS,
Grand Superintendent of the Hamilton District.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Principals and Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

As Grand Superintendent for the Huron District, I have to report the condition of Royal Arch Masonry to be in a favorable condition. I have visited my Chapters with the exception of Shuniah, No. 82, and have no fault to find. I have a very good report from this Chapter from the Z., V. E. Comp. Ray, and I hope to have the pleasure of seeing them shortly.

Respectfully submitted.

ISAAC F. TOMS,

Grand Superintendent of Huron District.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In compliance with the Constitution of Grand Chapter, I beg respectfully to submit my report on Royal Arch Masonry in the Niagara District for the past year.

From my acquaintance with the Companions of this District, and knowing the District had no suitable regalia for its Grand District Superintendent, I attended a Convocation of Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines, and brought the subject before the Companions. It was (with their usual zeal) taken up at once, and a committee was appointed to communicate with the other Chapters in the District, and now, I am happy to say, that when so required, the Grand District Superintendent can appear properly clothed.

On the 30th December, 1879, I granted a Dispensation to the members of King Hiram Chapter, No. 57, Port Colborne, to enable them to appear at a Masonic entertainment in their Royal Arch clothing.

On the 30th April, accompanied by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, of St. Catharines, I visited Mount Nebo Chapter, No. 76, Drummondville, for the purpose of installing the officers of said Chapter, which ceremony was very pleasantly performed by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, in his usual impressive style, and I take this opportunity of thanking the Companions of Mount Nebo Chapter for their kindness, and also to apologize for having to take leave of them so early as I did.

On the 7th of May, I granted a Dispensation to the members of Willson Chapter, No. 64, Welland, to enable them to appear at a concert given by them in their Royal Arch clothing, on which occasion I had the pleasure of visiting them.

I visited McCallum Chapter, No. 29, Dunnville, and although very kindly received, I had not the pleasure of witnessing any work, the material not being on hand; however, we spent a short time very pleasantly together.

I visited King Hiram Chapter, No. 57, Port Colborne, and found it much the same as the last above mentioned.

Accompanied by Comp. J. W. Coy, Excellent Z. of Mount Moriah Chapter, I visited Niagara Chapter, No. 55, Niagara. I need not dwell upon the courtesy extended; doubtless yourself, Most Excellent Sir, and many of the members of Grand Chapter have visited that historical town; if so you cannot easily forget the greeting of the Companions of Niagara Chapter. They have quite a nice Chapter-room as it is, but the Excellent Z. and Companions informed me that they intended re-building and enlarging their Masonic building, when they intended fitting up a Chapter-room in superb style. I sincerely wish them success in their undertaking.

I visited Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines.

I need not here dilate upon the excellencies of that truly loved and great mother of the Royal Craft in the Niagara District, suffice it that so long as the names of such Companions as M. E. Comp. James Seymour, and R. E. Comps. E. Goodman, H. Carlisle, R. Struthers, Ex. Comp. J. W. Coy, and others too numerous to mention in this report, are inscribed on her roll, there can be no doubt as to the regularity of the work and impressiveness of the ceremonies.

I visited Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby, on the occasion of the installation of officers. I have visited Grimsby Chapter several times, and was always favorably impressed with the way in which the business of that Chapter was conducted; the books of the Chapter are very neatly and regularly kept, so much so that it is a pleasure to examine them, which reflects credit upon the Excellent Z., and particularly upon R. E. Comp. W. Forbes, who is P. Z. and Scribe E. of the Chapter.

Most Excellent Sir, Officers and Companions, in my round of visits I can say I found the several Chapter-rooms in this District very neat and well furnished, and the Companions take a commendable pride in keeping them so; I found their books very nicely kept, as indeed is everything connected with the several Chapters. Some of the Chapters did not have as much work during the past year as they appear to have had in previous years. Mount Nebo and Niagara had some work, although I am sorry to say the candidates were not present on the occasion of my visit. Mount Moriah, with her usual zeal, has added some promising and creditable names to her already long list of members.

It is with regret, Most Excellent Sir, I have to notice the dilatoriness of a few of the Chapters in this District in making Grand Chapter returns. It is with extreme reluctance I mention that up to the time of my visit two of the Chapters had made no returns for two years, and were some two or

more years in arrears of dues to Grand Chapter, but I was assured that they were about to be made, and would be made, which I sincerely trust has been done.

In conclusion, I sincerely thank the Companions of the Niagara District for the honor conferred, and for the great kindness and courtesy extended on the occasion of my visits. If I have come short of what was expected from me, or if I appear somewhat severe in my remarks, I hope it will be taken kindly, for what I have said or done was fraternally, and with a feeling that it was for the interest of the Royal craft.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. WALKER,

Grand Superintendent Niagara District.

Beamsville, July 10th, 1880.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In submitting my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Toronto District, I am happy to say that with but one exception, the Chapters of the District are in a good condition.

Seymour Chapter, Bradford, has done little or no work during the year, and although anxious to visit them, I was not able to get them to appoint an evening for that purpose.

On the 30th of December, I visited Doric Chapter, No. 60, Newmarket, the resuscitation of which was recommended to me by R. E. Comp. Jas. Wilson, my predecessor. I had the pleasure of installing an efficient staff of officers, and I have every reason to believe that this Chapter will give a good account of itself under the management of Ex. Comp. Dr. Widdifield.

On the 3rd of January, I received an application from the Officers and Companions of Signet Chapter, No. 34, formerly of Orillia, for permission to remove to the Town of Barrie; believing it would further the interests of the Chapter, I readily consented to grant the permission, the more willingly from the fact that the Grand Z. being a resident of Barrie, I felt assured he would do all in his power to further its interests. My expectations in this respect have been fully realized, as the Chapter is now in a first-class condition and doing good work under the able management of Ex. Comp. J. McL. Stevenson, Z., M. H. Spencer, H., and Robt. King, J.

On the 25th of September, I received an application from a number of Companions, residents in the Town of Meaford, for a dispensation to open a new Chapter in said town. I duly recommended the same to the favorable consideration of the Grand Z., who issued his dispensation, and on the 4th of February the Chapter was opened and the officers were installed by R. Ex. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Grand J. I have much pleasure in recommending that a warrant be granted to this Chapter.

In January, I installed the officers of King Solomon's, No. 8, Ontario, No. 65, and Orient, No. 79. All of these Chapters are in a flourishing condition, but particularly the latter, which although a young Chapter, is doing nobly under the able presidency of Ex. Comp. Francis Gallow.

I regret that I have been unable to visit the Chapters in the northern section of the District, but feel confident that with the Grand Z. living at Barrie, and the Grand J. at Owen Sound, they have not suffered.

It is gratifying to me that I have not received any complaints during the year, and I feel satisfied that peace and harmony exists in every Chapter in the District.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the Officers and Companions of the Toronto District, for the uniform kindness and courtesy extended to me during the year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES B. NIXON,

Grand Superintendent Toronto District.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I regret that, in making the report of my year of office as Grand Superintendent of the Ontario District, I cannot speak favorably of the condition of the Royal craft in this section.

Of the six Chapters included in the District, only two, I may say, are in a satisfactory condition. These are, Corinthian Chapter, No. 36, Peterborough; and Victoria Chapter, No. 37, Port Hope. In the other four, I am constrained to say, there is an evident want of interest on the part of the officers and the members that I cannot account for. I have visited all the Chapters in the District with the exception of Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, Colborne; the latter must be dormant, for though I have repeatedly written to the Z., requesting him to notify me when meetings were to be held, I have received no reply.

I installed the officers of Pentalfa Chapter, No. 28, Oshawa; and Corinthian Chapter, No. 36, Peterboro'; both of which I think will give a favorable account of themselves during the coming year. St. John's Chapter, No. 48, Cobourg, possesses excellent material, and from conversations I have had with its officers and members, I am led to hope that increased activity and renewed interest will be evinced for the future.

During the year, I endeavored to secure funds for the purchase of a Regalia for the Grand Superintendent, but regret to say, my effort failed of success, only two Chapters responding, viz.: Victoria Chapter, Port Hope, and Pentalfa Chapter, Oshawa; each of which contributed ten dollars, (\$10.00.) I trust my successor, to whom I will hand this sum, (\$20.00), will be more successful. The Regalia is a necessity, and as ten dollars from each Chapter would provide it, there should be no further delay in advancing the small sum required. I may, however, say that some of the Chapters contend the Regalia should be provided by Grand Chapter.

Before closing, I have to express my unqualified disapproval of the use of the Ritual while at work, some of the Chapters making no attempt to even open and close without it.

In all my visits I have been most courteously treated, and warmly welcomed by the officers and members of the Chapters, for which I beg to express my warmest thanks.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES DOEBLER,

Grand Superintendent Ontario District.

Port Hope, June 14th, 1880.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Last year I led you to expect that Capitular Masonry in this District would be improved in the near future. I am rejoiced to be able to inform you that my predictions have been realized.

Prince Edward Chapter, No. 31, has experienced no particular change. An efficient staff of officers for the year was selected, and this Chapter may be said to be in good condition.

Moir Chapter, No. 7, Belleville, continues to be prosperous. During the year, I was called upon to grant permission for the Companions to appear in regalia, which request I cheerfully complied with.

In obedience to a summons from me, Ex. Comp. Preston called the Companions of Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 44, Napanee, together in May. R. E. Comp. Donald Ross and myself were present. The attendance was satisfactory. The required officers were elected, and the 1st and 3rd Principals were duly installed. The 2nd Principal not being eligible, a Dispensation was required, and upon application to the Grand Z., was promptly granted. I may say here, that in answer to my requisition for the above Dispensation, I was greatly encouraged by the cheering words of our popular Grand Z. Mount Sinai Chapter appears to be on a good footing now.

As regards St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26, Trenton, I cannot speak so hopefully, although some progress has been made in the direction of resuscitation. In May, I instructed R. E. Comp. Delany to summon the Companions to meet and show cause why the Chapter should not be suspended. R. E. Comp. Ross and myself, at considerable inconvenience, went to Trenton for the purpose of attending the meeting, and found that the necessary summons had not been issued, and that R. E. Comp. Delany had left town. Not disheartened altogether by these discouragements, we at length prevailed upon Comp. Delany to call a meeting, which he did for the 7th inst. R. E. Comp. Ross kindly went up to Trenton in my stead. The meeting was a failure. However, the position of affairs was considered by those present. It

was discovered that the Chapter was indebted to Grand Chapter in the sum of \$35.40, which amount a number of the Companions agreed to pay. The Companions of St. Mark's claim that, in 1875, they handed their Representative at Grand Chapter—R. E. Comp. Peter Begg—the sum of \$20, with instructions to pay the same on account of their dues. Evidence is not wanting to show that the Companions are correct in this matter, but it appears that Grand Chapter did not receive the money. I have, therefore, to recommend that, upon the Companions paying the sum of \$35.40 over to Grand Chapter, that \$20 be credited to St. Mark's.

I desire here to express my gratitude to R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, Grand H., for the very efficient services he rendered me during the year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. M. CONGER,

Grand Superintendent Prince Edward District.

Picton, 12th July, 1880.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

To the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In compliance with the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada, I beg to submit my report as Grand Superintendent of the Central District.

I regret to state that I have been unable to visit all the Chapters in this District, as I intended doing when I accepted this important office.

My business is of such a nature that it is impossible for me to leave home except in July and August.

The Annual Convocation being held this year in July instead of September, as was expected when I was elected, has prevented me carrying out my intentions.

No complaints of any kind have been submitted to me during the year, and as I have received many reports concerning the efficiency, harmony and prosperity that prevail in all the Chapters in this District, with one or two exceptions, I therefore feel justified in stating that Royal Arch Masonry is making satisfactory progress in the Central District.

I was requested by the Most Excellent the Grand Z., to visit Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, which has been dormant for some years, and endeavor to resuscitate it, but owing to reasons stated above, I was reluctantly compelled to decline. This labor I must leave to my successor in office.

I have officially visited Ancient Frontenac Chapter, No. 1, Kingston. I am happy to say that the proud name for good work and harmony which this Chapter has so long borne is still well deserved.

I have made several visits to Cataraqui Chapter, No. 12, Kingston. On May 10th, 1880, assisted by R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, Jr., Past Grand Superintendent, I installed the officers of this Chapter.

This Chapter is in a very healthy condition. I bear willing testimony to efficiency of its past and present officers; to the zeal that actuates all its members; and to its uniformly steady progress.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS GORDON,

Grand Superintendent Central District.

Kingston, June 30th, 1880.

NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z. and Grand Officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada.


In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, I have the honor to submit my Report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the New Brunswick District during the past Masonic year.

Owing to the same causes referred to in my Report of last year, Royal Arch Masonry in this District is not in as flourishing a condition as could be wished for, but it is hoped and expected that the worst is now over and that we are on the eve of more prosperous times.

In consequence of my many engagements, I have found it quite impossible to visit either St. Mark's or Botsford Chapters during the year.

Under date of the 15th June, Comp. W. D. Forster, Scribe E., writes me that St. Mark's Chapter remains numerically the same, not having had a candidate for Exaltation during the year.

Ex. Comp. Geo. H. Pick, Principal Z. of Botsford Chapter, writes me under date of 19th June, that they have had no additions during the past year, but that many have expressed a wish to connect themselves with the Chapter but are unable to do so at present. Botsford Chapter lost their Chapter Room and a portion of their paraphernalia by fire a few weeks ago, and at present they are not in a position to hold their Regular Convocations, but they are in hopes to be able to make arrangements to resume their meetings in a few weeks.

All of which is respectfully submitted. 

JAMES McNICHOL, JR.,
Grand Superintendent New Brunswick District.

St. John, N. B., June 22nd, 1880.

On motion of R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, the reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were received and referred to the Executive Committee for examination and report thereon.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of the Committee, which, on motion of R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson was received and ordered to be printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., submitted the Annual Statement of moneys received during the past year, together with the books, etc., he also submitted the Annual Statement of R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, of receipts and disbursements, with vouchers attached.

ANNUAL STATEMENT, JULY 1880.

DAVID McLELLAN, G. S. E., in Account with Grand Chapter.

No. 2—The Hiram.....	\$156 40	Brought Forward.....	\$961 60
" 3—St. John's.....	38 60	No.57—King Hiram.....	27 60
" 4—St. Andrew and St. John.....	37 80	" 60—Doric.....	19 50
" 5—St. George's.....	48 80	" 61—Perth.....	6 60
" 6—St. John's.....	76 20	" 65—Ontario.....	14 80
" 7—Moirs.....	27 60	" 68—Maitland.....	9 30
" 8—King Solomon's... 40 10		" 69—Grimsby.....	9 20
" 10—New Brunswick... 9 00		" 70—Grand River.....	13 60
" 11—St. Mark's..... 3 60		" 71—Prince of Wales.. 7 30	
" 12—Catawaqui..... 28 60		" 72—Keystone.....	20 70
" 13—Stadacona..... 2 00		" 74—Beaver.....	8 70
" 14—Prevost..... 6 00		" 75—St. Clair.....	14 40
" 15—Wawanosh..... 13 40		" 76—Mount Nebo.....	8 80
" 16—Carlton..... 8 00		" 77—Occident.....	36 60
" 18—Oxford..... 22 20		" 78—Minnewawa.....	13 00
" 19—Mount Moriah.... 24 60		" 79—Orient.....	42 40
" 20—Mount Horeb.... 7 50		" 80—Ark.....	18 00
" 24—Tecumseh..... 10 40		" 81—Aylmer.....	11 60
" 25—Mount Horeb.... 2 00		" 82—Shuniah.....	14 60
" 27—Manitou..... 6 40		" 83—Ionic.....	31 80
" 28—Pentalpha..... 10 60		" 84—Lebanon.....	17 10
" 29—McCallum..... 40 00		" 85—Exeter.....	21 40
" 30—Huron..... 25 60		U. D.—Macpherson.....	45 00
" 31—Prince Edward... 8 80		U. D.—Wentworth.....	47 50
" 32—Waterloo..... 8 50		Interest on \$4,500 Domin- ion Stock.....	225 00
" 34—Signet..... 13 30		Interest on \$1,500 Toronto H. B. Society Stock....	116 49
" 36—Corinthian..... 14 40		Interest on Bank Deposits	31 45
" 37—Victoria..... 10 60			
" 38—Seymour..... 13 90			
" 39—Botsford..... 19 50			
" 40—Guelph..... 23 70			
" 41—Harris..... 9 60			
" 47—Wellington..... 26 40			
" 48—St. John's..... 12 00			
" 52—Prince Rupert's... 56 30			
" 53—Bruce..... 21 00			
" 54—DeWarrenne..... 49 60			
" 55—Niagara..... 4 40			
" 56—Georgian..... 24 20			
Carried Forward.....	\$961 60		\$1,794 04

E. MITCHELL, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND CHAPTER.

CK.

1879.	Aug. 13—	To Balance as per statement	\$2,151 09	18—	By order, No. 98, Henry Robertson.....	\$ 50 00
	Aug. 25—	" Int. on deposit in Hamilton Provident & Loan Co.....	16 79	" 18—	" 99, Rolph smith & Co.....	50 00
	Sept. 30—	" "				

ASSETS.

Balance Cash on hand.....	\$1,335 38
Five per cent. Dominion Stock.....	4,500 00
Toronto House Building Association Stock.....	1,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$7,335 38

E. MITCHELL, Grand Treasurer.

Canadian Bank of Commerce, Hamilton, 10th July, 1880.

I hereby certify that the balance at credit of E. Mitchell, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter in the books of this branch at close of business at this date amounts to \$1,335.38.

JNO. C. KEMP, Manager.

Moved by M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, and Resolved,—That the Annual Statements of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Executive Committee for audit.

Letters of apology were then read from M. E. Comps. T. D. Harington, S. B. Harman, and C. D. Macdonnell, R. E. Comps. J. K. Kerr and Wm. Carey, regretting they would not be able to be present at this Annual Convocation, but they all expressed the hope that the meeting would be one of profit and pleasure to the Companions.

A letter was also read from M. E. Comp. John H. Graham, Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, expressing his regret that he would have to forego the pleasure he had anticipated by attending this Annual Convocation, and extending the hearty congratulations of the Grand Chapter of Quebec for the ever continued prosperity of the Mother Grand Chapter of Canada.

A communication from the Grand Chapter of Illinois was then read, announcing the death of M. E. Comp. Orlin H. Miner, P. G. H. P., and Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter of the State of Illinois.

The following Companions presented their credentials and were severally greeted with the usual Masonic salutations, which were suitably acknowledged by them:—

M. Ex. Comp. James Seymour, St. Catharines, Grand Mark Lodge of England & Wales.

M. Ex. Comp. L. H. Henderson, Belleville, Grand Chapter of Colorado.

M. Ex. Comp. Fred J. Menet, Toronto, Grand Chapter of Minnesota.

R. Ex. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, Goderich, Grand Chapter of Alabama.

R. Ex. Comp. John McLaren, Mount Forest, Grand Chapter of Arkansas.

R. Ex. Comp. Donald Ross, Picton, Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

R. Ex. Comp. Thomas C. Macnabb, Chatham, Grand Chapter of Delaware.

R. Ex. Comp. James Moffat, London, Grand Chapter of Florida.

R. Ex. Comp. John M. Gibson, Hamilton, Grand Chapter of Kansas.

R. Ex. Comp. Thos. Sargant, Toronto, Grand Chapter of Kentucky.

R. Ex. Comp. Ed. Mitchell, Hamilton, Grand Chapter of Louisiana.

R. Ex. Comp. Rev. St. Geo. Caulfeild, Windsor, Grand Chapter of Maine.

R. Ex. Comp. James A. Henderson, Kingston, Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

R. Ex. Comp. Joshua George Burns, Toronto, Grand Chapter of Maryland.

R. Ex. Comp. David McLellan, Hamilton, Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.

R. Ex. Comp. Jas. Wilson, Toronto, Grand Chapter of N. Carolina.

R. Ex. Comp. Rich. J. Hovenden, Toronto, Grand Chapter of Oregon.

R. Ex. Comp. Rich. Brierley, Hamilton, Grand Chapter of Texas.

Ex. Comp. John B. Trayes, Port Hope, Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.

E. Comp. Horatio W. P. Hodson, P. H. P. Americus Chapter, New York, was then introduced and received with the usual Masonic salutations, which he acknowledged in a suitable manner.

R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, Chairman of the Executive Committee, submitted the following

REPORT ON THE M. E. THE GRAND Z.'s ADDRESS.

The Executive Committee have carefully considered the able address of the M. E. the Grand Z., and beg leave to report thereon as follows:—

It is satisfactory to know that Royal Arch Masonry continues to flourish, and that unity and peace prevail amongst its members.

The meeting of all the branches of the Fraternity during the same week economises time and expense, has proved in

every way most beneficial, and will undoubtedly cement the brethren more firmly together.

The efficient manner in which the onerous duties of his high office have been performed by the M. E. the Grand Z., deserve and have the cordial appreciation of Grand Chapter. The precautions taken by him before granting dispensations are specially worthy of our commendation.

Your Committee are pleased to learn that Grand Chapter now possesses a comprehensive system of work, the preservation of which should be our constant aim.

The question of non-payment of dues is a large one, in view of the conflicting opinions on the subject entertained by eminent Masons in various jurisdictions, especially on this continent.

Under these circumstances your Committee are not at present prepared to suggest any more definite method of dealing with non-paying members than that already existing, but prefer to leave the whole matter to Grand Chapter, to be acted upon as in its wisdom may seem best.

Your Committee cordially agree with the views expressed by the M. E. the Grand Z. on the subject of the effect of Lodge suspension upon Chapter membership, and hope that in the revision of the Constitution, now being proceeded with, the regulations on this point will be amended in accordance with his suggestions. The custom of referring questions directly to the M. E. the Grand Z. is obviously objectionable, and should in no case be encouraged. The precedent now established, of insisting that these questions shall first be submitted to the Grand Superintendents, it is hoped will be strictly adhered to in the future.

The appointments of the Companions named, as Representatives to Foreign Grand Bodies, are recommended for

confirmation, and it is hoped that they will prove useful to this Grand Chapter.

Your Committee are fully in accord with the views of the M. E. the Grand Z. on the subject of Masonic funerals, believing that the simple costume worn on these occasions by Master Masons is more appropriate than any other, and that more elaborate display is unnecessary, and should be avoided.

The satisfactory condition of our finances must be a matter for the hearty congratulation of every Royal Arch Mason in the jurisdiction.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON WARRANTS.

The Executive Committee on Warrants beg leave to report that they have examined the books and records of the following Chapters under Dispensation:—

MACPHERSON CHAPTER, MEAFORD.

Your Committee having examined the minute book of this Chapter, find that on two occasions the Chapter received petitions, appointed committees, received reports of said committees, and balloted for the candidates named in the petitions, on one and the same Convocation, which is a direct violation of the Constitution; and your Committee, understanding that it has been the practice in the past for new Chapters to follow the above course at their first regular Convocations, strongly condemn the practice, and that in the future all new Chapters be required to comply with the Constitution.

Your Committee, believing that the First Principal of this Chapter considered he was acting in accordance with the usual custom of all new Chapters, do therefore recommend that a Warrant be granted them, and that the G. S. E. write Ex. Comp. McCarroll, drawing his attention to the foregoing report of this Committee.

WENTWORTH CHAPTER, DUNDAS.

Your Committee having examined the minute book of this Chapter, find it regular and well kept, and recommend that a Warrant be granted them.

With reference to Keystone Chapter, No. 72, St. Thomas, whose Warrant has been surrendered to the Grand Z., the Companions of which Chapter have already affiliated with DeWarrenne Chapter, No. 54, your Committee recommend that the Warrant of Keystone Chapter be finally withdrawn and cancelled, and that the name of DeWarrenne Chapter be changed to that of Palestine Chapter, as requested by the members of both Chapters.

CAPITULAR MASONRY.

The Executive Committee beg to report on the condition of Capitular Masonry within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

That we have received and examined the reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts, except the Manitoba District, and find, with few exceptions, the Grand Superintendents have faithfully discharged their duties, and that the greater number of Chapters have been visited by them in their respective Districts.

From the reports, we find that Capitular Masonry is growing and increasing in almost all the Districts, and, notwithstanding commercial depression, the year has been one generally prosperous. Harmony prevails throughout; no unpleasantnesses have arisen to mar the existing concord.

Two more Districts have complied with the recommendation of the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and have supplied Regalias for the use of the Grand Superintendents, which example we hope will be followed by all the Districts.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Executive Committee on Grievances and Appeals beg leave to report that they have examined the papers in the cases before them and report as follows:

<p>“TECUMSEH CHAPTER, No. 24, <i>vs.</i> COMP. W. R. KNOX.</p>	}	<p>The charges against this Companion appear to have arisen while he was Secretary of Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford, he having made use of a portion of the Lodge's money. It appears that he has made full restitution to the Lodge which recommended his restoration, and at the late Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, he was restored to his Masonic privileges. Under these circumstances, your Committee recommend that Companion Knox be restored to his Royal Arch rights.</p>
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In the case of Peter Grant, a former Companion of St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London, who was expelled by the Grand Chapter for having connected himself with the spurious Ontario Grand Lodge, your Committee find that he has been restored by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and we would recommend that the same action be taken by this Grand Chapter.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

The Executive Committee beg leave to submit the following report. They have examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer up to 10th July, 1880, and find them correct.

The receipts and disbursements for the past year have been as follows:—

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand.....	\$2,151 09
Certificates.....	\$450 00
Dues.....	622 40
Registration Fees.....	242 50
Dispensation, Chapters.....	80 00
" various.....	16 00
Warrant	10 00
Constitution	20
Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock.....	225 00
Interest on \$1,500 House Building Association Stock.....	116 49
Interest on Bank Deposits.....	31 45
	<hr/> 1,794 04
	<hr/> \$3,945 13

EXPENDITURE.

Henry Robertson, Report on Foreign Correspondence, 1879.....	\$ 50 00
Mrs. M. E. Harris, grant 1880.....	200 00
David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., on account of salary.....	458 33
David McLellan, Postage, Stationery, &c	53 48
Rolph Smith & Co., Certificates.....	110 00
J. B. Trayes, Printing Proceedings.....	186 49
" Sundry Printing.....	28 50
Engrossing Warrant	5 00
Invested in Toronto House Building Association.....	1,500 00
Daniel Spry, bal. expenses Grand Scribe E., session 1878.....	11 80
David McLellan, expenses Grand Scribe E., session 1879.....	6 15
	<hr/> \$2,609 75
Cash on deposit in C. B. of Commerce...	1,335 38
	<hr/> \$3,945 13

ASSETS.

Dominion Stock bearing 5% interest.....	\$4,500 00
Toronto House Building Ass. Stock, 8%...	1,500 00
Cash on deposit.....	1,335 38
	—————\$7,335 38

LIABILITIES.

The following accounts which the Committee recommend for payment:—

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.....	\$50 00
J. B. Traves, printing.....	14 25
Innes & Davidson, printing.....	4 00
Geo. C. Patterson, do	5 00
J. J. Mason, R. R. Certificates.....	6 50
Zimmerman, McNaught & Co.....	149 00
Expenses of Ritual Committee.....	17 00
Past Grand Z., incidentals for 1877-78.....	44 00
	—————\$289 75

Your Committee recommend the Grand H. be authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for an amount sufficient to defray the expenses connected with the present annual Convocation, including the printing of the proceedings for the present year, according to the terms of the contract.

Your Committee are of opinion that better provision should be made for the safe keeping of the books, records and papers of Grand Chapter in the office of the Grand Scribe E., and recommend that the Grand Z. be requested to appoint a committee for the purpose of carrying out the recommendation referred to.

Your Committee have considered the request of St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26, for a credit of \$20, being the amount claimed by that Chapter to have been handed to Comp. Peter Begg, in 1875, with instructions to pay it over to the Grand S. E.,

but which Comp. Begg failed to do: Your Committee cannot see that there is any claim on Grand Chapter for this amount and therefore recommend that the request be not granted.

Your Committee have examined the tenders for printing Constitutions and Proceedings, and recommend that the tender of A. Lawson & Co., for 1000 copies of the Constitution, at \$87.50; and that of J. B. Traves, for 500 copies of Proceedings, at 88c. per page, be accepted; it being understood that should the Constitution contain more or less than 60 pages a proportionate increase or decrease in the price shall be made.

Your Committee recommend that sealed tenders be asked for printing for three years the Proceedings of Grand Chapter, the tenders to be marked "Tenders for Printing," and to be opened by the Committee on Audit and Finance at the next Annual Convocation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DONALD ROSS,

Chairman of the Executive Committee.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, and Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee be received and adopted.

M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet submitted the following report on the Revision of the Constitution:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE REVISION OF
THE CONSTITUTION.

To the M. E. Grand Z. and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Committee to whom was referred the Revision of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, beg leave to report as follows:—

They have carefully examined the present Constitutio

with a view to its improvement, and have decided to recommend a number of alterations and additions, which are herewith submitted in printed form.

ALTERATIONS IN THE CONSTITUTION.

Page 7—Grand Superintendents.

Wellington, Niagara and Georgian Districts added.

Page 8—Grand Superintendents.

Montreal, E. Townships and Quebec Districts come out.

Page 9—6th line.

After "Past Z," expunge "H. and J."

Page 10—After nomination takes place, &c., add:

The nominations shall be in writing, and shall be handed unto the Grand Scribe E. during the first session of Grand Chapter.

Page 10, Article V—Last sentence to read:

The officers except the Janitor must be Past First Principals.

Page 11—

Section VI comes out.

Page 12—Sections IX, X and XI to read:

IX. The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter shall be held on the Friday of the same week in which is held the meeting of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, at the same place, at the hour of 10 a.m.

X. The Grand Z. may convene Grand Chapters of emer-

gency, when necessary, of which at least seven clear days shall be given. The reason for convening a Grand Chapter of emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no business but that so expressed shall be entered upon at that meeting.

XI. No officer or member shall be permitted to attend in Grand Chapter without the proper clothing and jewel of a Royal Arch Mason.

Page 12—

Section XII comes out.

Page 14—Section XVI reads:

When the Grand Lodge or any other competent authority shall, for any un-Masonic conduct, suspend or expel any brother who is a Royal Arch Mason, such Companion shall be suspended or expelled from his Arch Masonic functions for the period whilst such craft suspensions or expulsion continue in force.

Page 20—Of Grand Superintendents, Sections I and II reads:

This officer must be a Past First Principal and a resident in the district for which he is appointed.

II. He may preside in every Chapter he visits within his district.

Page 22—Section VIII reads:

He may grant dispensations for public festivals or processions in his district.

Page 22—Grand Scribes E. and N.

All after "Scribe E." comes out.

Page 23—

Sections down to “Executive Committee” comes out.

Page 23—Executive Com., Section I, II and III read.

I. The Executive Committee shall consist of all Past Grand First Principals; the Grand Principals H. and J., the Grand Superintendents of Districts, and the Grand Scribes, (*ex-officio* members,) and ten other members of the Grand Chapter, five to be elected annually by ballot, and five to be appointed by the Grand Z., immediately after the election and appointment of Grand Officers. The Grand H. shall be the presiding officer, and seven members shall constitute a quorum for the despatch of business. The committee may appoint sub-committees from amongst its members.

II. The committee shall meet at the place appointed for the Annual Convocation, on the day previous thereto, at such hour as the Grand H. may appoint. It may also be convened at other times, by command of the Grand H.

III. In the absence of the Grand H., the committee shall elect a chairman.

Page 25—Section II, 6th line.

Word “regular” expunged.

Page 26—Subordinate Chapters, Section I, add:

Lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters may be opened and worked without the Chapter being first opened.

Page 26—Section II, 7th line.

Word “regular” expunged.

Page 29—Sections XI and XII reads:

XI. The Officers and Companions, whilst in Chapter, shall wear the proper clothing and jewels of Royal Arch Masons.

XII. In case of the absence of the First Principal, his chair shall be taken by his immediate predecessor therein, or, in his absence, by the last but one, and so on, who shall discharge the duties of the Chapter.

Page 30—Section XIV, 5th line.

After the word “specified” add therein.”

Page 31—1st line.

After the word “specified” add “and the names of all Companions who have ceased to be members must be returned.”

Page 31—Section XVIII.

Strike out all between the words “certificate” in the 7th line and “this” in the 10th line.

Page 32—Section XX, 11th line.

After “the regular day” add “and hour.”

Page 32—Section XXI, 1st line.

After the word “book” expunge the word “or books.”

Page 34—Section XXIX, 5th line.

Strike out all after the word “chapter.”

Page 36—Section IV.

Strike out all between the word “chapter” in the 3rd line, and “the” in the 5th line.

Page 37—Section V, 3rd and 4th line.

Substitute “one black ball” for “two black balls.”

Page 37—Section I, honorary members, 2nd line.

Substitute “unanimous ballot” for “an open vote of the Chapter.”

Page 37—Section II, 3rd line.

Strike out all after the word “election.”

Page 38—Add:

III. Should an honorary member accept office in the Chapter, his honorary membership shall cease during the period whilst he holds such office, and he shall become during that period an ordinary member.

OF WITHDRAWAL.

Any member of a Chapter in good standing may withdraw from membership after notice in writing given to the Scribe E.

Page 38—Section III, of Visitors, 1st line.

Take out “in Canada,” and insert “within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.”

Page 40—Section I, of processions, to read:

No public procession or festival shall be allowed without a Dispensation from one of the Grand Principals, or the Grand Superintendent of the District, except to attend Masonic funerals, the urgency of which may not admit of the delay

necessary for procuring the Dispensation, and which shall immediately afterwards be reported to the Grand Superintendent of the District.

Page 41—Sections II and III, of appeals, reads:

II. No appeal will be received by the Grand Chapter or the Grand Z., unless made in proper and respectful language, and it must be sent to the Grand Scribe E. within one month after the date of the decision appealed against.

III. Notice of the intention to appeal against a decision must always be given within fourteen days from the time the decision is made known.

Page 43—Regalia, take out Sections I, II, III, IV, and insert following:—

REGALIA.

The following is the clothing and insignia of a Royal Arch Mason:—

APRON.

I. The apron is to be of white lamb-skin, or white kid-skin, from fourteen to sixteen inches wide, and from twelve to fourteen inches deep, with an indented crimson and purple border two inches wide, the crimson part fronting to the centre of the apron, the border of the flap or lappet to be only one inch wide, in the centre of the flap is to be a triangle of white silk or satin, surrounded with gold border and within the triangle three taus, united in gold spangled embroidery, and two gold tassels are to be suspended by white

ribbons two inches wide, coming from under the flap. The linings and strings shall be white.

II. The apron for Principals and Past Principals of subordinate Chapters shall have the triangle, the linings and strings, and the ribbon suspending the tassels of scarlet, and may be trimmed with gold lace and fringe.

III. The apron for present and past Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter, shall have an indented crimson and purple border, four inches wide, the border of the flap or lappet to be two inches wide, the triangle linings and strings, and ribbon suspending the tassels to be purple; there may be also the emblem of office embroidered on the centre of the apron sash.

The sash of the order shall be of four inches indented crimson and purple ribbon, with silk fringe at the ends.

The sash of Principals and Past Principals of subordinate Chapters, may have gold fringe or bullion.

The sash of present and past Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter, shall be a tricolor ribbon of purple, crimson and pale blue, four inches wide, with gold fringe or bullion at the ends.

Sashes to be worn on the right shoulder.

Page 44—Section V, 2nd line.

Take out “is to,” and insert “may.”

Page 45—Sections VI and VIII reads:—

V. The jewel of office worn by Principals and Officers of subordinate Chapters, is to be suspended by a crimson collar, four inches wide.

VII. The medal of the order is to be worn on the left breast, suspended by a narrow white ribbon, two inches wide; but for present and past officers of the Grand Chapter, it may be tricolor, corresponding with the collar; and for Principals and Past Principals of all subordinate Chapters, crimson, also corresponding with the collar; all medals gold or gilt.

Page 46—Section X, clause 1, first line.

After the word “officers” insert the word “may.”

Transferred from page 43—

No honorary or other jewel or emblem shall be worn which shall not appertain to, or be consistent with those degrees which are recognized, and acknowledged by the Grand Chapter.

Page 46—Section X, clause 2, reads:—

The following are recognized degrees as defined by Grand Chapter, viz:—Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch.

Page 50—Forms, 1st and 2nd lines read:—

“We, the undersigned, being of registered Royal Arch Masons, of the Chapters,” &c.

Page 51—Forms, 1st and 2nd lines.

Expunge “and members of,” and insert “raised in.”

Page 52—1st paragraph reads:—

“ I was exalted in ——— Chapter, No. ———, and am in good standing in the Royal Craft.”

It was intended to have these proposed amendments distributed to all the subordinate Chapters at least one month before this Annual Convocation, but through some inadvertence this has not been done.

Your Committee are of the opinion that in such an important matter the members of the subordinate Chapters should have a full opportunity of considering the amendments suggested, and of discussing them at their meetings before proceeding to take final action thereon in Grand Chapter.

It is therefore recommended that the consideration of the Revision of the Constitution be deferred until the next Annual Convocation.

That the proposed amendments as printed be sent at once to all the subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction.

That the present Committee on Revision of the Constitution be continued, or a new Committee appointed as the M. E. Grand Z. may deem proper.

That the subordinate Chapters be requested to send any amendments of the Constitution which they desire to suggest to the Grand Scribe E. within the next three months. These suggestions are then to be forwarded to the Committee.

That the whole Constitution as it is proposed to be amended, be printed under the direction of the Committee, and copies thereof distributed to all the subordinate Chapters

two months before the next Annual Convocation, at which final action thereon may be taken.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

F. J. MENET,
HENRY ROBERTSON,
HENRY MACPHERSON,

Guelph, Ont., July 16, 1880.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, and Resolved,—That the Report on the Revision of the Constitution be received and adopted.

The Grand Scribe E. reported that, in accordance with the instructions received at the last Annual Convocation, he had duly summoned the following Chapters, viz:—

No. 26, St. Mark's.....Trenton.

“ 58, Pembroke.....Pembroke.

By their proper officers, to appear at this Annual Convocation, to shew cause why they should not be suspended for failing to make the requisite returns and payments to Grand Chapter. After hearing explanations in reference to the above Chapters by several Companions,

It was moved by R. E. Comp. T. C. Macnabb, seconded by R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, and Resolved,—

That the above Chapters be summoned to appear by their proper officers or representatives at the next Annual Convocation, to shew cause why their Warrants should not be cancelled, and returned to the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment at 1 p.m.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 1.30 p.m.

PRESENT :

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. "	Donald Ross,	" H.	
" "	Henry Macpherson,	" J.	

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The following Companions were nominated by the Representatives from the respective Districts, and approved by the M. E. Grand Z. as

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

E. Comp.	Wm. Hawthorne,	London.....	London	Dist.
R. E.	" C. L. Beard,	Woodstock.....	Wilson	"
"	" John McLaren,	Mount Forest...	Wellington	"
"	" Gavin Stewart,	Hamilton.....	Hamilton	"
"	" Isaac F. Toms,	Goderich.....	Huron	"
E.	" John W. Coy,	St. Catharines...	Niagara	"
R. E.	" J. G. Burns,	Toronto.....	Toronto	"
"	" Chas. Doeblor,	Port Hope.....	Ontario	"
E.	" James Smith,	Belleville.....	P. Edward	"
V. E.	" John Moore,	Ottawa.....	Central	"
"	" Henry Duffell,	St. John.....	N. Brunsw'k	"
E.	" John H. Bell,	Winnipeg.....	Manitoba	"

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers of the ballot.

The following named Companions were declared duly elected by acclamation, except the Grand Principal Sojourner

and Grand Registrar, who received a majority of the votes cast:—

M.E. Comp.	Daniel Spry, Barrie, re-elected,	Grand Z.
R. E.	“ Donald Ross, Picton,	“ “ H.
“	“ Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound, re-elected.....	“ J.
“	“ David McLellan, Hamilton, re-elected.....	“ S. E.
E.	“ J. Ross Robertson, Toronto....	“ S. N.
V. E.	“ J. E. Tamlyn, Wingham.....	“ Prin. Soj.
R. E.	“ E. Mitchell, Hamilton, re-elected	“ Treas
E.	“ E. H. D. Hall, Peterboro'.....	“ Registrar.
And by an open vote of Grand Chapter,		
Comp. W. W. Summers,.....	“	Janitor.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year:—

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson.....	Collingwood.
“	“ J. M. Meakins.....	Hamilton.
“	“ Thos. Sargant.....	Toronto.
“	“ Wm. Forbes.....	Grimsby.
“	“ J. J. Mason.....	Hamilton

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Grand Z., then appointed the following Companions as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz:—

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth.....	London.
“	“ J. B. Nixon.....	Toronto.
“	“ T. C. Macnabb.....	Chatham.
“	“ H. K. Maitland.....	Guelph.
“	“ Rev. St. George Caulfeild.....	Windsor.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Grand Z., proceeded with the

installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

At a subsequent date, the M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the year ensuing, viz:—

V. E. Comp.	Francis Gallow, Toronto,	Grand 1st As. Soj.
"	" Fleming Rowland, Kingston,	" 2nd "
"	" George J. Waugh, Stratford,	" Sword Br.
"	" Albert Pain, Hamilton,	" Stand. Br.
"	" Henry Rush, Peterboro',	" D. of C.
"	" J. McL. Stevenson, Barrie,	" Organist.
"	" Wm. Lawson, Picton,	" Pursuivant
"	" A. Taylor, Galt,	" Steward.
"	" F. B. Gregory, Collingwood,	" "
"	" David Kennedy, Guelph,	" "
"	" E. B. Butterworth, Ottawa,	" "

R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant submitted the report on Ritual.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. G. Burns, and Resolved,—

That the Report of the Ritual Committee be received and adopted.

MOTIONS.

It was moved by E. Comp. W. L. Tackaberry, seconded by R. E. Comp. T. C. Macnabb,—

That the thanks of this Grand Chapter are due and are hereby tendered to the members of the Ritual Committee for their arduous labor during the past year. Carried.

Moved by R. E. Comp. John McLaren, seconded by R. E. Comp. I. F. Toms, and Resolved,—

That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the Companions of Guelph Chapter, No. 40, of the city of Guelph, for the excellent arrangements made for the holding of the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, and for the generous hospitality extended to the representatives and visitors.

PRESENTATION.

In accordance with the terms of a Resolution passed at the last Annual Convocation, authorizing the appointment of a Committee to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, Past Grand Z., to mark in an appropriate manner our high appreciation of his services as Grand Z. during the years 1878 and 1879, I now beg leave to submit the following:—

To M. E. Comp. Frederick J. Menet, Past Grand Z. Grand Chapter of Canada.

DEAR SIR AND M. E. COMP.,—In compliance with the express wishes of the Companions at the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, we are pleased to present you with this testimonial as a slight token of the high esteem in which you are held by the Craft under our jurisdiction. It has been a labor of love, having been connected with you in Capitular Masonry for many years and knowing how justly you have deserved it, having labored long and earnestly in every department of our Royal Craft.

We have no doubt but that it will be appreciated by you, knowing the well wishes and kindest regards with which you are held by every member of Grand Chapter.

We trust that you may be long spared to enjoy social intercourse with your Companions, and though you have passed out of the highest office which it is possible for a Companion to attain, you will still

retain the continuance of kind fellowship which it has been our lot to enjoy.

On behalf of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

DONALD ROSS, Grand H., Chairman.

HENRY MACPHERSON, Grand J.

DAVID McLELLAN, Grand Scribe E.

The Testimonial consisted of a handsome piece of Plate suitably engraved.

M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet in receiving the testimonial, replied in very appropriate terms to the address, thanking the Companions for the valuable memento, which he would always prize, not so much for its intrinsic worth but for the kindness which prompted it, and as an evidence of the good feeling existing between him and his Companions.

The M. E. Grand Z. then appointed the following Committees:—

CONSTITUTION.

M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, P. G. Z.....Toronto.

R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, J.....Owen Sound.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, P. G. J.....Collingwood.

WORK.

M. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, P. G. Z.....Toronto.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Z.....Barrie.

R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, P. G. Supt.....Toronto.

R. E. Comp. R. J. Hovenden, P. G. Supt.... “

PROTECTION OF RECORDS.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour, P. G. Z., St. Catharines.

R. E. Comp. John M. Gibson, P. G. Supt....Hamilton.

“ “ J. M. Meakins, P. G. Supt..... “

“ “ J. J. Mason, P. G. Supt..... “

The labors of Grand
Chapter being ended
it was closed in Ample
Form at 3.30 p. m.



David M. Lellan.

GRAND SCRIBE E.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS ACCORDING TO LAST RETURN RECEIVED.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
1	Ancient Frontenac	Kingston	Third Tuesday in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov.	G. M. Wilkinson ..	A. LeRicheux
2	The Hiram	Hamilton.....	First Monday of every month	J. M. Meakins	B. J. Morgan
3	St. John's	London.....	Fourth Wednesday of every month	Wm. Hawthorn.....	John Siddons
4	St. Andrew & St. John	Toronto	Third Friday of every month	Ulysses Boddy	Donald Sinclair
5	St. George's	London.....	Third Tuesday of every month.....	J. Ferguson	H. A. Baxter
6	St. John's	Hamilton.....	Second Thursday of every month	Albert Pain	J. A. Malcolm
7	Moir	Belleville....	First Tuesday of every month.....	James Smith.....	Donl. McLean
8	King Solomon's	Toronto.....	Third Monday of every month.....	J. Ross Robertson..	A. R. Riches
10	New Brunswick	St. John.....	First Thursday of every month.....	Andrew J. Stewart	D. S. Stewart
11	St. Mark's	St. Andrew's, N.B.	Second Thursday of each month.....	R. Glenn.....	W. D. Forster
12	Cataraqui	Kingston.....	Second Monday in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov.	F. Rowland.....	A. Shaw
15	Wawanosh	Sarnia.....	Second Friday in Jan., April, July & Oct.	E. A. Vidal.....	Jas. Woods
16	Carleton	Ottawa.....	Second Monday of every month	L. W. P. Coutlie..	W. Anderson
18	Oxford	Woodstock....	First Friday of every month.....	James Canfield....	Jos. Codville
19	Mount Moriah	St. Catharines N.	Friday on or before full moon of each month	John W. Coy.....	J. D. Christie
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford....	First Wednesday of every month.....	S. W. McMichael..	Robt. Morton
22	Grenville	Prescott	First Wednesday in Jan., April, July & Oct.	J. H. Kenning.....	A. Parker
23	Ezra	Simcoe.....	Second Wednesday of every month.....	Geo. J. Waugh	I. Baker
24	Tecumseh	Stratford.....	Last Tuesday of every month	No Returns	No Returns
26	St. Mark's	Trenton.....	Second Wednesday of every month	Frank B. Gregory..	W. R. Anderson
27	Manitou	Collingwood .	First Friday of every month	Philip Taylor	W. H. Conant
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa.....	First Friday of every month	Robert Nimmo	M. F. Haney
29	McCallum	Dunnville....	Friday on or after full moon of every month	Isaac F. Toms.....	Jas. Addison
30	Huron	Goderich....	First Friday of every month.....	John H. Murray...	Donald Ross
31	Prince Edward	Pictou.....	Friday on or after every full moon	A. Taylor.....	R. S. Blain
32	Waterloo	Galt.....	Monday on or after full moon of every month	Jno Mc, L. Stevenson	Alex. B. McPhie
34	Signet	Barrie.....	First Tuesday of every month.....		

Return of Subordinate Chapters, &c., Continued.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCIBE E.
35	Keystone	Whitby..... O.	Third Thursday of every month	John Stanton.....	J. H. Addison
36	Corinthian	Peterboro'..... O.	Third Friday of every month.....	E. H. D. Hall.....	John Hull
37	Victoria	Port Hope..... O.	Second Thursday of every month	Thomas Hewson....	W. B. Wallace
38	Seymour	Bradford..... T.	Friday on or before full moon of every month	Wm. H. Porter.....	H. S. Broughton
39	Botsford	Moncton..... N.B.	Third Monday of every month.....	G. H. Pick	Geo. Ackman
40	Guelph.....	Guelph..... Ws.	Friday on or after every full moon.....	Hugh Walker.....	J. Minnick
41	Harris	Ingersoll..... W.	First Tuesday after full moon of every month	C. H. Slawson.....	Jas. MacIntyre
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee..... P.E.	Wednesday after every full moon	No Returns	No Returns
45	Excelsior	Colborne..... O.	First Thursday of every month	T. W. Cumming....	M. Williams
46	St. James.....	St. Mary's..... Hx.	Second Wednesday of every month.....	No Returns	No Returns
47	Wellington	Chatham..... L.	Thursday on or before full moon every month	W. L. Tackaberry..	Jas Birch
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg..... O.	Friday on or before full moon every month	R. J. Winch.....	G. J. Stephens
49	Elora.....	Elora..... Wn.	Wednesday after full moon every month ..	Wm. Elliott.....	W. Gay
50	Saugeen	Walkerton .. Wn.	Second Wed. Jan., March, May, July, Sep., Oct.	Joseph Craig.....	John F. H. Gunn
52	Prince Rupert.....	Winnipeg..... M.	First Thursday of every month.....	J. H. Bell.....	Charles N. Bell
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia..... L.	First Thursday of every month	Wm Stevenson....	R. Lawyer
54	Palestine	St. Thomas... L.	First Tuesday of every month.....	Robert Makay.....	Henry Kirkland
55	Niagara.....	Niagara..... N.	Thursday after the full moon of every month	J. M. Clement.....	R. Best
56	Georgian	Owen Sound.. T.	First Tuesday of every month.....	J. Creasor.....	J. McWhirter
57	King Hiram.....	Pt. Colborne.. N.	First Thursday of every month	John B. Neff.....	John McKay
58	Pembroke	Pembroke C.	First Monday of every month	No Returns.....	No Returns
59	Sussex	Brockville... C.	Friday on or before full moon of every month	No Returns.....	No Returns
60	Doric.....	Newmarket... T.	First Wednesday of every month	J. H. Widdifield..	Richard Flood
61	Granite	Perth	Second Monday of every month	W. T. Walker	James Bell
62	York	Eglington..... T.	Fourth Thursday of every month	John Fisher.....	Jas. F. Hopkins
63	Havelock	Lucknow..... Hs.	First Monday of every month	No Returns.....	No Returns
64	Willson	Welland..... N.	Last Wednesday of every month.....	No Returns	No Returns

65	Ontario.....	Yorkville.....T	Second Wednesday of every month.....	Henry Fulford.....	Wm. Lowry
66	Seaforth.....	Seaforth.....Hn	Friday before full moon of every month...	J. H. Benson.....	M. R. Counter
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston...Wx	Tuesday after full moon of every month...	Alex. Michie.....	E. H. Dewar
68	Maitland.....	Maitland.....C	Thur. nearest f. m. in Mar., June, Sep. & Dec.	J. Moore.....	G. C. Longley
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....N	First Wed. in Jan., Mar., May, July, Sep. & Dec.	W. E. Millward...	Wm. Forbes
70	Grand River.....	Berlin.....Wx	First Wednesday after full moon.....	Jas. Lookie.....	Wm. Hendry
71	Prince of Wales..	Amherstburg. L.	First Wednesday on or before full moon...	Geo. Green.....	F. Smith
73	Erie.....	Port Stanley..L.	First Friday in every month.....	No Returns.....	No Returns
74	Beaver.....	Strathroy...L.	Second Tuesday of each month.....	Jas. Noble.....	T. H. Bateman
75	St. Clair.....	Milton.....H	Second Wed. in Jan. and alternate months	Wm. Pantou.....	J. Lyon
76	Mount Nebo.....	Drummondv1N	First Friday after full moon.....	Geo. J. Duncan...	John Gray
77	Occident.....	Toronto.....T	Fourth Monday of every month.....	Jas. Wilson.....	Robt. Chariton
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill...L	Third Wednesday of each month.....	A. Burns.....	E. M. Bigg
79	Orient.....	Toronto.....T	Third Wednesday of every month.....	Francis Gallow...	Henry F. Queleh
80	Ark.....	Windsor.....L	First Wednesday of each month.....	P. A. Craig.....	J. H. Wilkinson
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....L	Friday on or after full moon of every month	C. W. Clarke.....	S. S. Clutton
82	Shuniah.....	P. A. Landings. Hn	Friday on or before full moon.....	S. W. Ray.....	W. J. Clarke
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville..Wx	Tuesday after the full moon of every month	Wm. Watson.....	R. W. Greig
84	Lebanon.....	Wingham...Hn	First Wednesday of each month.....	J. E. Tamlyn.....	D. Watson
85	Exeter.....	Exeter.....Hn	First Tuesday of each month.....	Jas. Sutton.....	Geo. Samwell
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford.....T	Second Thursday of each month.....	Thos. McCarroll....	Fred. S. Clarke
87	Wentworth.....	Dundas.....H	Friday on or after each full moon.....	Nathaniel Greening	Albert Pain

NOTE.—The capital letters on the right of "where held" column indicate the several Districts, viz:—C., Central; H., Hamilton; Hn., Huron; L., London; M., Manitoba; N., Niagara; N. B., New Brunswick; O., Ontario; P. E., Prince Edward; W., Wilson; Wx., Wellington.

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JULY, 1880.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RET'NS	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURN.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CREDIT
1	Ancient Frontenac.....	Kingston.....	A. D. 1795	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1879	.....	.....
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	" 1820	.....	.....	" 1880	.....	.....
3	St. John's.....	London.....	" 1844	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
4	St. Andrew and St. John ..	Toronto.....	" 1847	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
5	St. George's.....	London.....	" 1854	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	" 1855	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
7	Moir.....	Belleville.....	" 1856	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	" 1857	.....	.....	"	.....	\$8 00
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N. B.....	Feb. 24, 1859	.....	.....	"	\$41 00	.....
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew, N. B..	Sept., 1846	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston.....	A. D. 1859	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	Feb. 8, 1860	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	"	.....	.....	"	22 00	.....
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
19	Mount Moriah.....	St Catharines.....	Feb. 21, 1861	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	Feb. 20, 1862	.....	1880	"	1879 1 80	.....
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880 11 40	.....
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	Aug. 11, 1863	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	Aug. 14, 1866	1874	'75-6-7-8	"	1873 19 00	.....
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	.....
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	Aug. 13, 1867	.....	.....	"	"	22 80
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
31	Prince Edward.....	Pictou.....	Aug. 11, 1868	.....	.....	"	.....	.....

32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	Aug. 11, 1868	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1880	10	.....
34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	Aug. 10, 1869	.....	.....	"	"	.....
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	17 10
36	Corinthian.....	Peterboro'.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
38	Seymour.....	Bradford.....	Aug. 10, 1870	.....	.....	"	1879	60
39	Botsford.....	Moncton, N.B.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	.....
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	Aug. 9, 1871	.....	1876	"	1875	1 00
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	13 60
46	St. James'.....	St. Mary's.....	"	.....	1874-5	"	1873	2 75
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	.....
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	Aug. 14, 1872	.....	.....	"	"	.....
49	Elora.....	Elora.....	"	.....	.....	"	1879	6 00
50	Saugeen.....	Walkerton.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	18 40
52	Prince Rupert's.....	Winnipeg.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
54	Palestine.....	St. Thomas.....	Aug. 13, 1873	.....	.....	"	"	.....
55	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	20
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
57	King Hiram.....	Port Colborne.....	Aug. 14, 1874	.....	.....	"	"	.....
58	Penbroke.....	Pembroke.....	"	.....	1876	"	1875	10 00
59	Sussex.....	Brockville.....	"	.....	.....	"	1879	7 60
60	Doric.....	Newmarket.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	.....
61	Granite.....	Perth.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	.....
62	York.....	Eglington.....	"	.....	.....	"	"	9 00
63	Havelock.....	Lucknow.....	"	.....	1879	"	1878	7 00
64	Willson.....	Welland.....	Aug. 11, 1875	.....	1879	"	"	10 00
65	Ontario.....	Yorkville.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	.....
66	Seaforth.....	Seaforth.....	"	.....	.....	"	1879	.....
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	.....

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JULY, 1880.—Continued.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RET'NS	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURN.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CREDIT
68	Maitland.....	Maitland.....	Aug. 11, 1875	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1880	.....	.....
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
70	Grand River.....	Berlin.....	Aug. 9, 1876	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
71	Prince of Wales.....	Amherstburg ..	"	.....	.....	"	40	.....
73	Erie	Port Stanley.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
74	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	"	1879	1880	"	.....	.....
75	St. Clair.....	Milton .....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
76	Mount Nebo.....	Drummondville	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
77	Occident.....	Toronto .....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....	Aug. 8, 1877	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
79	Orient.....	Toronto .....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
80	Ark.....	Windsor .....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	Aug. 14, 1878	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
82	Shuniah.....	Pr. Arthur's Landing	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
84	Lebanon.....	Wingham .....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
85	Exeter.....	Exeter.....	Aug. 13, 1879	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford	July 16, 1880	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
87	Wentworth.....	Dundas.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admissions.	No. of Joinings.	Restor'd	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Expell'd	Deaths.	No. of Members
1	Ancient Frontenac.....	Kingston.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	65
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	162
3	St. John's.....	London.....	7	.....	.....	2	9	.....	3	78
4	St. Andrew and St. John.....	Toronto.....	5	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	114
5	St. George's.....	London.....	8	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	99
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	9	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	1	196
7	Moir.....	Belleville.....	4	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	88
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	4	1	.....	9	11	.....	.....	133
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N. B.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	106
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew, N. B.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston.....	4	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	78
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	67
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	8	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	65
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.....	3	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	78
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	1	1	.....	5	1	.....	.....	30
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	.....	.....	.....	1	10	.....	.....	27
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	1	.....	.....	3	3	.....	1	32
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	51
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	5	.....	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	48
31	Prince Edward.....	Pictou.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	44

61	Granite.....	Perth.....	1	.....	1	5	.....	1	18
62	York.....	Eglington.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	35
63	Havelock.....	Lucknow.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
64	Willson.....	Welland.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
65	Ontario.....	Yorkville.....	2	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	29
66	Seaforth.....	Seaforth.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31
68	Maitland.....	Maitland.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	26
70	Grand River.....	Berlin.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
71	Prince of Wales.....	Amherstburg.....	1	.....	2	1	.....	1	32
73	Erie.....	Port Stanley.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
74	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
75	St. Clair.....	Milton.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
76	Mount Nebo.....	Drummondville.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	24
77	Occident.....	Toronto.....	8	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	63
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....	3	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	40
79	Orient.....	Toronto.....	12	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	37
80	Ark.....	Windsor.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
82	Shuniah.....	Pr. Arthur's Landing.....	5	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	28
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
84	Lebanon.....	Wingham.....	4	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	22
85	Exeter.....	Exeter.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
86	Macpherson.....	Macpherson.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
87	Wentworth.....	Dundas.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
			173	59	2	99	75	0	3,455
								19	

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on Roll	76	Number Withdrawals Reported.....	99
“ Represented in Grand Chapter.....	55	“ Suspensions	75
“ Registrations Reported.....	173	“ Deaths	19
“ Joinings.....	59	“ Expelled	0
“ Restored.....	2	Total number Members on Roll of Grand Chapter	3,455
Total amount of Receipts, 1879-80.....	\$1,794 04.		

SUSPENSIONS.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

- | | | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|--|--|---|
| No. 3. | <i>St. John's, London.</i> | Richard Wigmore.
John Mullin.
Conrad Vandusen.
John Lander. | | F. W. H. C. Jarvis.
Walter Riddell.
Wm. Ironsides.
R. W. Teeple. |
| | | Wm. H. Niles. | | |
| No. 10. | <i>New Brunswick, St. John.</i> | Jos. V. McKenzie.
Geo. Wilson.
Wm. J. M. Harrington. | | John C. Moriarty.
Norman Robertson.
James Huich. |
| | | Richard Southwood. | | |
| No. 20. | <i>Mount Horeb, Brantford.</i> | David Armstrong. | | |
| No. 27. | <i>Manitou, Colingwood.</i> | S. B. Fisk.
Daniel Crew.
F. D. Boyse.
John McKemie.
J. H. Hatch. | | Alex. Mitchell.
Alex. Cooper.
Benj. Tripp.
J. L. T. Bush.
Robt. Hamilton. |
| No. 28. | <i>Pentalpha, Oshawa.</i> | Andrew Smith. | \| | Wm. Hurl. |
| | | Wm. McCabe. | | |
| No. 30. | <i>Huron, Goderich.</i> | Robt. Booth.
Addison Worthington.
Mark Wade.
Wm. F. Luxton. | | James Madden.
Bernard Trainer.
Wm. Kennedy.
Alfred Allerby. |
| | | W. R. Squire. | | |
| No. 32. | <i>Waterloo, Galt.</i> | Wm. Elliott
Joseph Wagner.
John Harris. | | John McK. Anderson.
Adam Murray.
John J. Dewar. |
| No. 37. | <i>Victoria, Port Hope.</i> | Job Dickinson. | \| | Geo. McLean. |
| No. 41. | <i>Harris, Ingersoll.</i> | A. H. Clunn.
J. R. Walker. | | M. H. Gray.
M. Bixel. |

- No. 45. *Excelsior, Colborne.*
 Wm. A. Willoughby. | A. W. Page.
 Henry Smedly.
- No. 47. *Wellington, Chatham.*
 John A. Stuart. | David T. Smith.
 Robert Stants. | S. Phillips.
 E. H. Tiffany.
- No. 50. *Saugeen, Walkerton.*
 J. B. Davis. | John Hamilton.
- No. 52. *Prince Rupert's, Winnipeg.*
 Alex. M. Brown. | W. Herchimer.
 J. S. Nesbitt. | Thos. Black.
 D. B. Murray. | John Breden.
- No. 54. *Palestine, St. Thomas.*
 Orlo Scealey. | T. H. Newton.
 John Campbell. | Luke Ellison.
 Elihu Moore. | J. R. Elliott.
 J. J. Bourne. | J. D. Vanpatter.
 G. W. Pitt.
- No. 60. *Doric, Newmarket.*
 James Marshall.
- No. 61. *Granite, Perth.*
 Archibald McNee. | James Jackson.
 Henry Glien. | Robert Millar.
 Wm. Mostyn.
- No. 71. *Prince of Wales, Amherstburg.*
 John Conroy.

RESTORATIONS.

- No. 5. *St. George's, London.*
 Peter Grant.
- No. 8. *King Solomon's, Toronto.*
 Chas. G. Fortier.
- No. 24. *Tecumseh, Stratford.*
 William Robert Knox.
- No. 28. *Pentalpha, Oshawa.*
 T. G. Hawthorn.
- No. 52. *Prince Rupert's, Winnipeg.*
 Thos. Black. | D. B. Murray.

AT REST.

NAME.	NAME AND NUMBER OF CHAPTER.	DATE.
Archibald Macallum..	2, The Hiram.....	June 29, 1879.
John Campbell.....	3, St. John's.....	June 17, 1879.
W. Simpson Smith ..	"	July, 1879.
John W. Kelly.....	"	August, 1879.
James H. Hickman..	4, St. And. & St. John	May 16, 1879.
John B. McGann	6, St. John's.....	Jan. 20, 1880.
Frederick W. Alport..	7, Moira.....	Oct. 4, 1879.
Robert Shives.....	10, New Brunswick....	Jan. 7, 1879.
George L. Smith	"	Oct 8, 1878.
James Denny.....	"	March 3, 1879.
William Taylor.....	28, Pentalpha	Oct. 10, 1879.
J. P. Campbell.....	35, Keystone.....	July, 1879.
R. B. Hall	36, Corinthian.....	March 2, 1879.
David S. MacDonald..	41, Harris.....	May 11, 1879.
Thomas H. Barton...	52, Prince Rupert's....	Nov., 1878.
John Kennedy.....	"	Jan. 12, 1879.
Evan Jones.....	53, Bruce.....	1879.
T. B. Lombard.....	"	1879.
John Robb.....	54, DeWarrenne	Jan., 1880.
Thos. Watchom.....	61, Granite.....	Dec. 21, 1879.
Wm. Morrow.....	71, Prince of Wales....	Dec. 18, 1879.
Rev. James Smyth ..	74, Beaver.....	No date.
Fred. H. Graham.....	76, Mount Nebo	Jan. 21, 1880.
John L. Bell.....	82, Shuniah.....	Dec. 14, 1879.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER, 1880-81.

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry, Barrie,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. E.	Donald Ross, Picton,	H.	
"	H. Macpherson, Owen Sound,	J.	
"	W. Hawthorn, London,	Gr. Supt.	London District.
"	C. L. Beard, Woodstock,	Wilson	"
"	J. McLaren, Mount Forest,	Wellington	"
"	Gavin Stewart, Hamilton,	Hamilton	"
"	Isaac F. Toms, Goderich,	Huron	"
"	J. W. Coy, St. Catharines,	Niagara	"
"	J. G. Burns, Toronto,	Toronto	"
"	Chas. Doebler, Port Hope,	Ontario	"
"	Jas. Smith, Belleville,	P. Edward	"
"	John Moore, Ottawa,	Central	"
"	Henry Duffell, St. John's,	New Brun.	"
"	John H. Bell, Winnipeg,	Manitoba	"
"	David McLellan, Hamilton,	Grand Scribe E.	
"	J. R. Robertson, Toronto,	N.	
"	J. E. Tamlyn, Wingham,	Principal Sojourner.	
"	Edward Mitchell, Hamilton,	Treasurer.	
"	E. H. D. Hall, Peterboro,	Registrar.	
V. E.	Francis Gallow, Toronto,	1st Asst. Sojourner.	
"	Fleming Rowland, Kingston,	2nd " "	
"	George J. Waugh, Stratford,	Sword Bearer.	
"	Albert Pain, Hamilton,	Standard Bearer.	
"	Henry Rush, Peterboro',	Dir. of Ceremonies.	
"	J. McL. Stevenson, Barrie,	Organist.	
"	William Lawson, Picton,	Pursuivant.	
"	A. Taylor, Galt,	Steward.	
"	F. B. Gregory, Collingwood,	"	
"	David Kennedy, Guelph,	"	
"	E. B. Butterworth, Ottawa,	"	
"	W. W. Summers, Hamilton,	Janitor.	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT :

R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, Grand H., Picton.

M. E. Comp. T. Douglas Harington, P. G. Z., Prescott.

" " S. Bickerton Harman, P. G. Z., Toronto.

- M. E. Comp. C. D. Macdonnell, P. G. Z., Peterboro'.
 " " James Seymour, P. G. Z., St. Catharines.
 " " L. H. Henderson, P. G. Z., Belleville.
 M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, P. G. Z., Toronto.
 R. E. " Henry Macpherson, Grand J., Owen Sound.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

- R. E. Comp. Wm. Hawthorn, London, London District.
 " " C. L. Beard, Woodstock, Wilson District.
 " " John McLaren, Mount Forest, Wellington District.
 " " Gavin Stewart, Hamilton, Hamilton District.
 " " Isaac F. Toms, Goderich, Huron District.
 " " John W. Coy, St. Catharines, Niagara District.
 " " Joshua G. Burns, Toronto, Toronto District.
 " " Charles Doebler, Port Hope, Ontario District.
 " " James Smith, Belleville, Prince Edward District.
 " " John Moore, Ottawa, Central District.
 " " Henry Duffell, St. John, New Brunswick District.
 " " John H. Bell, Winnipeg, Manitoba District.
 " " David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., Hamilton, *ex-officio*.
 " " J. Ross Robertson, Toronto, Grand Scribe N., *ex-officio*.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

- R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
 " " Jonathan M. Meakins, Hamilton.
 " " Thomas Sargant, Toronto.
 " " William Forbes, Grimsby.
 " " J. J. Mason, Hamilton.

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND Z.

- R. E. Comp. A. G. Smyth, London.
 " " J. B. Nixon, Toronto.
 " " Rev. St. George Caulfeild, Windsor.
 " " T. C. Macnabb, Chatham.
 " " H. K. Maitland, Guelph.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF
 CANADA FROM FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS.

<i>Grand Chapters.</i>	<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Residences.</i>
Alabama,	R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms,	Goderich.

<i>Grand Chapters.</i>		<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Residences.</i>
Arkansas,	R. E. Comp.	John McLaren,	Mount Forest.
California,	" "	Hy. Macpherson,	Owen Sound.
Colorado,	M. E. "	L. H. Henderson,	Belleville.
Connecticut,	R. E. "	Donald Ross,	Picton.
Delaware,	" "	T. C. Macnabb,	Chatham.
Dist. of Col.,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
Florida,	" "	Jas. Moffat,	London.
Georgia,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
Illinois,	" "	R. Ramsay,	Orillia.
Indiana,	M. E. "	Jas. Seymour,	St. Catharines.
Iowa,	" "	" "	"
Kansas,	R. E. "	J. M. Gibson,	Hamilton.
Kentucky,	" "	Thos. Sargant,	Toronto.
Louisiana,	" "	Edward Mitchell,	Hamilton.
Maine,	" "	Rev. St. Geo. Caulfeild,	Windsor.
Maryland,	" "	J. G. Burns,	Toronto.
Massachusetts,	" "	Jas. A. Henderson,	Kingston.
Minnesota,	M. E. "	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto.
Mississippi,	R. E. "	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
Missouri,	" "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	Laprairie.
Nebraska,	" "	R. Ramsay,	Orillia.
New Hampshire,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
New Jersey,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Nevada,	R. E. "	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.
New York,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
North Carolina,	" "	Jas. Wilson,	Toronto.
Nova Scotia,	M. E. "	T. D. Harington,	Prescott.
Ohio,	R. E. "	R. Ramsay,	Orillia.
Oregon,	" "	R. J. Hovenden,	Toronto.
Pennsylvania,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
Quebec,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Rhode Island,	E. "	J. B. Trayes,	Port Hope.
South Carolina,	M. E. "	C. D. Macdonnell,	Peterboro'.
Tennessee,	" "	T. D. Harington,	Prescott.
Texas,	R. E. "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton.
Virginia,	" "	Wm. Brydon,	Toronto.
Vermont,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
West Virginia,	" "	S. B. Harman,	Toronto.
Wisconsin,	R. E. "	W. H. Weller,	Cobourg.
Scotland,	" "	J. K. Kerr,	Toronto.
Gr. Mark L'ge of			
Eng. & Wales,	M. E. "	Jas. Seymour,	St. Catharines.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS
 FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

<i>Grand Chapters.</i>		<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Residences.</i>
Alabama,		E. Comp. Jos. H. Johnson,	Talladega.
Arkansas,		E. Comp. Geo. L. Kimball,	Dardanelle.
California,		M. E. Comp. N. W. Spaulding,	Oakland.
Colorado,		E. " Benj. T. Wells,	Black Hawk.
Connecticut,		" " W. R. Higby,	Bridgeport.
Delaware,		" " Geo. F. Young,	Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia,	R. " "	J. S. McCoy, M.D.,	Washington.
Florida,	M. " "	Robt. J. Perry,	Key West.
Georgia,	" " "	W. H. Tuller,	Atlanta,
Illinois,	R. " "	Jas. H. Miles,	Chicago.
Indiana,	" " "	E. L. McLallen,	Columbia City.
Iowa,	R. " "	Jas. W. Wilson,	Newton.
Ireland,	" " "	J. H. Neilson,	Dublin.
Kansas,	" " "	Francis Menet,	Lawrence.
Kentucky,	M. " "	H. R. French,	Mt. Sterling.
Louisiana,	R. " "	Andrew Hero, Jr.,	Delta.
Maine,	M. " "	Andrew J. Fuller,	Bath.
Maryland,	" " "	J. M. Carter,	Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	M. " "	Jas. Kimball,	Salem.
Minnesota,	R. " "	Orville G. Miller,	St. Paul.
Mississippi,	M. " "	A. H. Barkley,	Crawfordsville.
Missouri,	R. " "	M. A. Fyke,	Clinton.
Nebraska,	" " "	H. P. Duel,	Omaha.
New Hampshire,	" " "	A. Baker,	Lebanon.
New Jersey,	M. " "	W. H. McIlhane,	New York.
Nevada,	R. " "	S. W. Chubbuck,	Gold Hill.
New York,	" " "	Jno. S. Bowen,	New York.
North Carolina,	" " "	Chas. C. Clarke,	New Berne.
Nova Scotia,	" " "	L. F. Darling,	Halifax.
Ohio,	R. " "	C. A. Woodward,	Cleveland.
Oregon,	" " "	Donald Mackay,	Portland.
Pennsylvania,	R. " "	Thos. R. Patton,	Philadelphia.
Quebec,	" " "	Thos. Milton,	Montreal.
Rhode Island,	" " "	W. R. Greene,	Providence.
South Carolina,	" " "	J. M. Bratten, M.D.	Charleston.
Tennessee,	R. " "	Geo. S. Blackie,	Nashville.
Texas,	" " "	Henry Scherffius,	Houston.
Virginia,	M. " "	Geo. W. Dame,	Danville.

<i>Grand Chapters.</i>	<i>Representatives.</i>			<i>Residences.</i>
Vermont,	R. E. Comp.	Wm. Brinsmaid,		Burlington.
West Virginia,	" " "	Frank Johnson,		Wheeling.
Wisconsin,	M. " "	R. D. Pulford,		Mineral Point.
Scotland,	R. " "	Lord Inverurie,		Carlton Club,
Grand Mark Lodge of				London, Eng.
England & Wales, M.	" "	Frederick Binckes,		London, Eng.

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMAN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.
Alabama	James Harvey Joiner, Talladega....	Daniel Sayre, Montgomery.....	Palmer J. Pillans, Mobile.
Arkansas	M. M. McGuire, Dardanelle	L. E. Barber, Little Rock.....	Thos. H. Caswell, San Francisco.
California.....	Wiley Jas. Tinnin, Weaverville...	Thos. H. Caswell, San Francisco	Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
Canada	Daniel Spry, Barrie, Ont.....	David McLellan, Hamilton.....	Roger W. Woodbury, Denver.
Colorado.....	John R. Hambel, Georgetown.....	E. C. Parmelee, Georgetown....	John H. Barlow, Birmingham.
Connecticut	Dwight Phelps, West Winstead....	J. K. Wheeler, Hartford	J. Thomas, Budd.
Delaware	John W. Lawson, Wilmington.....	H. B. McIntire, Wilmington ..	N. D. Larner, Washington.
Dist. of Columbia.	Matthew Trimble, Washington ...	Chas. W. Hancock, Washington	
Florida	Robert J. Perry, Key West.....	D. C. Dawkins, Jacksonville....	Samuel Lawrence, Atlanta.
Georgia.....	J. W. Oslin, West Point.....	J. E. Blackshear, Macon	Robt. L. McKinlay, Paris.
Illinois	Samuel W. Waddle, Bloomington..	Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago....	T. R. Ercanbrack, Anamosa.
Indiana.....	Thos. B. Long, Terre Haute	J. M. Bramwell, Indianapolis....	
Iowa	Almon R. Dewey, Washington....	W. B. Langridge, Muscatine....	John M. Price, Atchison.
Ireland	Hon. Judge Townshend.....	Samuel B. Oldham, Dublin.....	H. A. M. Henderson, Frankfort.
Kansas	Erasmus T. Carr, Leavenworth....	John H. Brown, Wyandotte ...	Jos. P. Horner, New Orleans.
Kentucky.....	John H. Leathers, Louisville.....	J. H. Branham, Louisville.....	J. H. Drummond, John S. Derby.
Louisiana	Edwin H. Fay, Clinton	J. C. Batchelor, New Orleans...	E. T. Shultz, Baltimore.
Maine	Jos. M. Hayes, Bath.....	Ira Perry, Portland	Rev. J. W. Dadmum, Boston.
Maryland	Edmund J. Oppelt, Baltimore.....	Geo. L. McCahan, Baltimore....	W. P. Innes, Grand Rapids.
Massachusetts...	Thos. Waterman, Boston.....	Z. H. Thomas, Cambridgeport...	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
Michigan	Samuel H. Norton, Pontiac.....	W. P. Innes, Grand Rapids....	P. M. Savery, Baldwyn.
Minnesota.....	T. Montgomery, St. Peter.....	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.....	W. H. Mayo, St. Louis.
Mississippi.....	Fred. Speed, Vicksburg.....	J. L. Power, Jackson	Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha.
Missouri.....	James E. Cadle, Chillicothe.....	Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis.....	
Nebraska.....	Francis E. White, Plattsmouth.....	W. R. Bowen, Omaha	

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.—Continued.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMAN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.
New Hampshire..	G. W. Currier, Nashua.....	Geo. P. Cleaves, Concord.....	J. J. Bell, Exeter.
New Jersey.....	James H. Durand, Rahway.....	Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey.....	Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City.
Nevada.....	David E. Baily, Eureka.....	John D. Hammond, Carson.....	John D. Hammond, Carson.
New York.....	Wm. T. Woodruff, New York.....	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo....	D. A. Ogden, Peunyan.
North Carolina..	C. M. Van Orsdell, Wilmington..	Donald W. Bain, Raleigh.....	James Southgate, Hillsboro.
Nova Scotia.....	Wm. Taylor, Halifax.....	James Gossip, Halifax.....	James Gossip, Halifax.
Ohio.....	Jas. B. Hovey, Marietta.....	Jas. Nesbitt, Troy.....	Thos. J. Melish, Cincinnati.
Oregon.....	John B. Congie, Portland.....	R. P. Earhart, Salem.....	T. McF. Patton, Salem.
Pennsylvania.....	W. C. Hamilton, M.D., Philadelphia	John Thompson, Philadelphia..	Chas. E. Meyer, Philadelphia.
Quebec.....	J. H. Graham, Richmond.....	Angus Grant, Montreal.....	A. F. Simpson, Lennoxville., Que.
Rhode Island.....	John P. Sanborn, Newport.....	Wm. R. Greene, Providence...	G. H. Burnham, C. H. Carpenter, Jr.
South Carolina...	W. J. DeSaussure, Charleston...	J. E. Burke, Charleston.....	J. E. Burke, Charleston.
Tennessee.....	Jos. H. Bullock, Paris.....	John Frizzell, Nashville.....	
Texas.....	G. M. McWhirter, Belton.....	Robt. Brewster, Houston.....	Robt. M. Elgin, Houston.
Virginia.....	Samuel M. Bowman, Harrisonburg	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond.....	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond.
Vermont.....	A. A. Hall, St. Albans.....	W. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington	Ed. S. Dana, New Haven.
West Virginia....	John W. Grantham, Middleway...	O. S. Long, Wheeling.....	J. P. C. Cottrill, Milwaukee.
Wisconsin.....	Fred. Ring, Jr., LaCrosse.....	J. W. Woodhull, Milwaukee....	
Gen. Grand Chap.	John Frizzell, Nashville.....	C. G. Fox, Buffalo.....	
England.....	H. R. H. Prince of Wales.....	Col. Shadwell H. Clerke.....	
Scotland.....	Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart.....	Lindsay Mackersy, Edinburgh..	
G. Mark Lodge of England & Wales	Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale.....	Fred. Binckes, London, Eng...	

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

NO. 1—LONDON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. William Hawthorn,
London.

No. 3, St. John's, London.....	Middlesex	County.
" 5, St. George's, London.....	"	"
" 15, Wawanosh, Sarnia.....	Lambton	"
" 47, Wellington, Chatham.....	Kent	"
" 53, Bruce, Petrolia.....	Lambton	"
" 54, Palestine, St. Thomas.....	Elgin	"
" 71, Prince of Wales, Amherstburg.....	Essex	"
" 73, Erie, Port Stanley.....	Elgin	"
" 74, Beaver, Strathroy.....	Middlesex	"
" 78, Minnewawa, Park Hill.....	"	"
" 80, Ark, Windsor.....	Essex	"
" 81, Aylmer, Aylmer.....	Elgin	"

NO. 2—WILSON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. C. L. Beard, Woodstock.

No. 18, Oxford, Woodstock.....	Oxford	County.
" 20, Mount Horeb, Brantford..	Brant	"
" 23, Ezra, Simcoe.....	Norfolk	"
" 41, Harris, Ingersoll.....	Oxford	"

NO. 3—WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. John McLaren,
Mount Forest.

No. 32, Waterloo, Galt.....	Waterloo	County.
" 40, Guelph, Guelph.....	Wellington	"
" 49, Elora, Elora.....	"	"
" 50, Saugeen, Walkerton.....	Bruce	"
" 67, Enterprise, Harriston.....	Wellington	"
" 70, Grand River, Berlin.....	Waterloo	"
" 83, Ionic, Orangeville.....	Wellington	"

NO. 4—HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Gavin Stewart, Hamilton.

No. 2, The Hiram, Hamilton.....	Wentworth	County.
" 6, St. John's, Hamilton.....	"	"
" 75, St. Clair, Milton.....	Halton	"
" 87, Wentworth, Dundas.....	Wentworth	"

NO. 5—HURON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, Goderich

No. 24, Tecumseh, Stratford.....	Perth	County.
“ 30, Huron, Goderich.....	Huron	“
“ 46, St. James', St. Mary's.....	Perth	“
“ 63, Havelock, Lucknow.....	Bruce	“
“ 66, Seaforth, Seaforth.....	Huron	“
“ 82, Shuniah, P. A. Landing.	Algoma	District.
“ 85, Exeter, Exeter.....	Huron	“
“ 84, Lebanon, Wingham... ..	“	“

NO. 6—NIAGARA DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. J. W. Coy, St. Catharines.

No. 19, Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.....	Lincoln	County.
“ 29, McCallum, Dunnville.....	Monck	“
“ 55, Niagara, Niagara.....	Niagara	“
“ 57, King Hiram, Port Colborne.....	Welland	“
“ 64, Willson, Welland.....	“	“
69, Grimsby, Grimsby.....	Lincoln	“
76, Mount Nebo, Drummondville.....	Welland	“

NO. 7—TORONTO DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. G. Burns, Toronto.

No. 4, St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.....	York	County.
“ 8, King Solomon's, Toronto.....	“	“
“ 27, Manitou, Collingwood.....	Simcoe	“
“ 34, Signet, Barrie.....	“	“
“ 38, Seymour, Bradford.....	“	“
“ 56, Georgian, Owen Sound.....	Grey	“
“ 60, Doric, Newmarket.....	York	“
“ 62, York, Eglington.....	“	“
“ 66, Ontario, Yorkville.....	“	“
“ 77, Occident, Toronto.....	“	“
“ 79, Orient, Toronto.....	“	“
“ 86, Macpherson, Meaford.....	Grey	“

NO. 8—ONTARIO DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Charles Doebler, Port Hope.

No. 28, Pentalpha, Oshawa.....	Ontario	County.
“ 35, Keystone, Whitby.....	“	“
“ 36, Corinthian, Peterboro'.....	Peterboro'	“
“ 37, Victoria, Port Hope.....	Durham	“

No. 45, Excelsior, Colborne.....	Northumberland Co
“ 48, St. John's, Cobourg.....	“ “

NO. 9—PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. James Smith, Belleville.

No. 7, Moira, Belleville.....	Hastings	County.
“ 29, St. Marks, Trenton.....	“	“
“ 31, Prince Edward, Picton.....	Pr. Edward	“
“ 44, Mount Sinai, Napanee.....	Lennox	“

NO. 10—CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. John Moore, Ottawa.

No. 1, Ancient Frontenac, Kingston.....	Frontenac	County.
“ 12, Cataraqui, Kingston.....	“	“
“ 16, Carleton, Ottawa.....	Carleton	“
“ 22, Grenville, Prescott.....	Grenville	“
“ 58, Pembroke, Pembroke.....	Renfrew	“
“ 59, Sussex, Brockville.....	Leeds	“
“ 61, Granite, Perth.....	Lanark	“
“ 68, Maitland, Maitland.....	Grenville	“

NO. 11—NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Henry Duffell, St. John.

No. 10, New Brunswick, St. John.....	St. John, N. B.
“ 11, St. Mark's, St. Andrew's.....	St. Andrew's, N. B.
“ 39, Botsford, Moncton.....	Westmoreland, N.B

NO. 12—MANITOBA DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. John H. Bell, Winnipeg.

No. 52, Prince Rupert, Winnipeg.....	Manitoba.
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1880.

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

OF

CANADA.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

BEING AN

APPENDIX TO THE PROCEEDINGS

FOR 1880.

HENRY ROBERTSON, CHAIRMAN.

Report on Foreign Correspondence

FOR 1880.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they have received the Proceedings of the following thirty-nine Grand Chapters, namely:—

England, (Mark).....	1879	Michigan.....	1880
Scotland.....	1879	Minnesota.....	1879
Ireland.....	1880	Mississippi.....	1880
Alabama.....	1879	Nebraska.....	1879
California.....	1879	Nevada.....	1879
“.....	1880	New Hampshire.....	1879
Colorado.....	1879	New Jersey.....	1879
Connecticut.....	1880	New York.....	1880
Delaware.....	1880	North Carolina.....	1879
District of Columbia.....	1879	Nova Scotia.....	1879
Florida.....	1879	Ohio.....	1879
Georgia.....	1879	Oregon.....	1879
Illinois.....	1879	Pennsylvania.....	1879
Indiana.....	1879	Quebec.....	1879
Iowa.....	1879	Rhode Island.....	1879
Kansas.....	1879	Tennessee.....	1879
Kentucky.....	1879	Vermont.....	1879
Louisiana.....	1880	“.....	1880
Maine.....	1879	Virginia.....	1879
Massachusetts.....	1879	Wisconsin.....	1880
Maryland.....	1879		

These Proceedings have been carefully read and examined with the view of giving to our Companions the more important transactions, which have occurred in other jurisdictions for the year now past, and to afford them such information

as is obtainable on the present state and condition of Royal Arch Masonry.

We commence our review with the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British crown.

ENGLAND.

GRAND MARK LODGE.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was held on February 18, 1879, for the purpose of voting an address of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen, on the death of H. R. H. Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse.

The half-yearly Communication was held at Freemasons' Tavern, London, on June 3rd, 1879.

In the absence of the Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, the Grand Lodge was opened by the Earl of Limerick, P. G. M., who made the following remarks:—

“M. W. Bro. the Earl of Limerick said that he had been commissioned by Lord Skelmersdale to express his lordship's regret that he was unable to be present. Not very long ago he was suffering from a severe illness. He had not completely recovered his strength, and was recommended to take a short voyage. He (Lord Limerick) was also commissioned by the Earl of Donoughmore, Deputy Grand Master, to apologize for his non-attendance. Lord Donoughmore had only returned within the last three or four days from Bulgaria, where he had been acting on a commission; and he had at the present time so much public duty to perform, that he hoped the Brethren would accept his expression of regret for his enforced absence.”

From the report of the General Board we learn that during the six months ending on March 31st, 1879, the number of certificates issued was 640, thus bringing the roll of Advancements to 12,413.

Warrants were issued for ten new Lodges: four in Lon-

don; two in Jamaica, and one each in Reading, Rochester, Watford and Hereford.

The receipts during the same half-year were £690 18s. 3d. The balances in favor of the funds were: General Fund, £143 6s. 8d; Benevolent Fund, £76 14s. 10d; Educational Branch, £100.

Two new Provinces were constituted, namely: Gloucestershire, with Provincial Grand Master Rev. C. Rex. Davy; and Dorset, with Provincial Grand Master Montague Guest.

Recognitions were received from the Grand Chapters of Quebec and Illinois.

The following recommendation of the Board was adopted by Grand Lodge.

“Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, M. W. P. G. M., moved the adoption of the following recommendation: ‘To confer the rank of Past Master on Bros. Dhanjeebhoy J. Camadore, Ramsey Lodge, No. 180; Major G. B. Wolseley, Garnet Lodge, No. 228; and Lord Ossulston, Frontier Lodge, No. 204, on the recommendation of the R. W. Prov. G. M. of Bengal.’ He said that no one could confer this rank but Grand Lodge. Owing to the late Afghan war the three Brethren named, who were Masters of their Lodges at the time, were sent to the front, and their Lodges were left without any Masters. The Provincial Grand Master had authorized a fresh election of W. M., but in order that they might not lose their rank of Past Master, as they would have to do if they had not served twelve months, he recommended Grand Lodge to confer on them the rank of Past Master.”

Two grants were made from the Benevolent Fund, one of £50, and the other of £20. A gratuity of £50 was voted to the Assistant Grand Secretary, for his exertions in recovering long-standing arrears due the Grand Lodge to the amount of £500.

The principal officers are:—

Lord Skelmersdale, Grand Master.

The Earl of Donoughmore, Deputy Grand Master.

VI. GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

Viscount Maudville, Grand Senior Warden.

J. M. P. Montague, Grand Junior Warden.

Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary.

Rev. J. R. Portal, President of the Board.

The invested funds amount to £2,000, and are placed as follows:—

GENERAL FUND.

Canadian 5 per cent. Debenture Bonds..... £200.

New Zealand 5 per cent. Consuls..... 800.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

Canadian 5 per cent. Debenture Bonds..... £600.

New Zealand 5 per cent. Consuls..... 400.

The Grand Master is a Vice-President of the Masonic Charities, with 25 votes in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, 14 votes in the Institution for Girls, and 10 votes in the Institution for Aged Freemasons, and Widows of Freemasons.

The annual festival in aid of the Benevolent Fund was held at Alexandra Palace, under the chairmanship of Lord Arthur Hill, and realized £537 8s.

SCOTLAND.

We have been favored with the Annual Report of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, issued May 31st, 1879.

Owing probably to commercial depression during the previous year, the returns from Chapters are not so large as in former years, but there was only a trifling decrease of revenue.

One new Chapter was chartered, to be located at Durban, in Natal.

A practice seems now to prevail in some Chapters, of presenting a copy of the Laws to each candidate on his exaltation, and the Grand Chapter recommend all Chapters to adopt this practice, as it is of importance that all members should be acquainted with the Laws and Constitutions of the Order.

On April 18th, 1878, Comp. Wm. Hay was unanimously elected Chairman of the Grand Committee for the ensuing year.

We make the following extracts from the proceedings of the Committee on that day:—

Eo die.—Having taken into consideration a Petition from the Canterbury Kilwinning Royal Arch Chapter, Christ Church, New Zealand, No. 136, complaining of the appointment by the Supreme Chapter of Companion Robert Paterson, Dunedin, N. Z., as Provincial Grand Superintendent over that Province, and praying for the cancelling of his Commission. The Committee beg to report to the Supreme Chapter, the circumstances out of which the appointment of Companion Paterson arose. Previous to Companion Paterson's appointment, the office of Provincial Grand Superintendent of New Zealand was held by Companion Caldwell, who had been appointed on the recommendation of the Chapters existing in that country at the time. During his tenure of office, a body in Egypt issued what was called a Charter, authorizing certain Brethren in New Zealand to work all the Degrees of Masonry from the First to the Thirty-third inclusive. All the governing Masonic Bodies in Scotland sent out instructions to their Representatives in New Zealand, instructing them to bring the matter under the notice of their Lodges, Chapters, or Priories there, and to caution them against having anything to do with this irregular Charter. In particular, the Supreme Chapter so instructed Companion Caldwell, but he refused to obey the orders of the Supreme Chapter, and sent in his resignation of the office he held. The fact of his resignation was known in New Zealand long before it reached this country, but no recommendation for the appointment of a successor accompanied it from any of the Chapters, nor has any such since been received. The Supreme Chapter at once accepted Companion Caldwell's resignation, and the question then arose, whether it would be wise, in the existing state of matters in New Zealand, to leave the Province without a head for more than a year, while they ascertained the wishes of the different Chapters, which after all might not agree upon a Companion to be recommended, or at once to appoint a Companion in whom they had confidence. The Supreme Chapter adopted the latter course, and appointed Companion Paterson the head of the Temple Priory in Otago, and he has accepted of the appointment, has been installed into office, and is now acting. In

these circumstances, the Committee recommend the Supreme Chapter to refuse the prayer of the Petition."

"*Eo die*.—The Committee having resumed consideration of the Communications from the Alexandra Chapter, Charlottetown, Prince Edward's Island, and from the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, recommended the Supreme Chapter to give no countenance to the application from the Chapter No. 100, to retain its Charter while it transferred its allegiance to the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, the Chapter not being within the territory of that Grand Chapter."

On June 10th, 1878, a letter was laid before the Committee from Enoch Chapter, No. 3, at Montrose, from which it appeared that, notwithstanding the abolition of the Past Master's degree in 1872, that Chapter had still continued working it. The Grand Scribe E. was directed to communicate with the Chapter for the purpose of referring it to the Law, and ordering that the practice of working the degree be at once discontinued.

On June 19th, 1878, the Grand Chapter resolved to give no sanction to the proposed secession of the Chapter at Charlottetown, P. E. I., on the ground that Prince Edward Island is not within the territory of Nova Scotia.

The following correspondence appears as to the working of the Past Master's degree. We think that the example of Scotland might well be followed in this matter, and we would be glad to see this degree altogether abolished from the Chapter work:—

"3 NORTH ST. DAVID STREET,
"EDINBURG, 21st September, 1877. }

"M. E. AND DEAR SIR AND COMP.—At the Quarterly Communication held on the 19th instant of the Supreme Chapter a memorial was presented from the Operative Chapter, Aberdeen, No. 41, as to difficulties experienced by members of the Chapter in getting admittance to Royal Arch Chapters in America, in consequence of these members not being in possession of the Degree called 'The Past Master.' It was stated that admittance was refused to Chapters, even while working in the Royal Arch Degree, unless the Aberdeen Companions took and paid for the Past Master's Degree. The Supreme Chapter resolved to bring the matter under the notice of their Representatives in America, to see if any arrangement can be made—and I accordingly now address you on the subject.

"In doing so, I would explain as regards Great Britain that the Degree of Past Master never was worked in the Grand Chapter of England, nor I think of late, by the Grand Chapter of Ireland. In both of these countries, however, there is a degree called the Installed Masters, which is given to the actual Master of a Craft Lodge. In Scotland, until some years ago, the Installed Master Degree in the Craft Lodges did not exist, and the Royal Arch Chapters worked the Past Master's Degree.

"This state of matters was found to be very inconvenient, and accordingly the Grand Lodge of Scotland adopted the Installed Master's Degree, and the Supreme Chapter gave up the working of the Past Master's Degree.

"In these circumstances, we cannot of course confer the Degree, but there appears no reason why our members should not be freely admitted to Royal Arch Chapters which do confer it, when the Chapters are open in the Royal Arch Degree.

"The case of an English Royal Arch Mason here is somewhat analogous. In that country the Mark and Excellent Degrees are not worked in the Chapters as they are here, and of course an English Royal Arch Mason could not be admitted into a Mark or Excellent Lodge, but whenever the Chapter is opened he is admitted freely. It appears to the Supreme Chapter that you might be able to induce the Grand Chapters in America to make some such arrangement as the following, viz.:—To admit our Companions to the Mark and Excellent Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters, but not to the Past Master Lodges. It would be an obligation to the Supreme Chapter if you will give this matter your consideration, and do what you can to bring about a satisfactory arrangement.

"I remain, M. E. and Dear Sir and Comp.,

"Yours fraternally,

"(Signed) LINDSAY MACKERSY, G. S. E.,

"Rep. G. Chapter of Pennsylvania.

"CHARLES E. MEYER, Esq., Rept. Sup. Chapter of Scotland at Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States."

"PHILADELPHIA, 13th October, 1877.

"My Dear Brother Mackersy:

"Your letter of 21st of September duly received, and I hasten to reply to it. I will briefly and fully as I can explain to you the working of American Royal Arch Masonry. We here recognize the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason.

"There is no trouble or want of uniformity, except with the degree of Past Master, or as we call it here, 'Passing to the Chair.' In Pennsylvania the degree is controlled by the Grand Lodge of F. and A. Masons. A Brother desiring to pass the Chair, except by election, must petition the Grand Master for that purpose. This petition has to be recommended by the W. M., S. W., and J. W. of the Lodge of which the Brother is a member, recommending him for that honor, the Secretary affixing the seal of the Lodge. The Grand Master, upon the payment of the fee, 10 cents, and being satisfied that the Brother has been six months a Master Mason, and is able to open and

close a Lodge, issues the dispensation, and the ceremony is the same as for one who has been elected to serve his Lodge as Master.

"There is this difference between Pennsylvania and the other Grand Chapters in America. The candidate receives the degree under the Chapter Warrant, and as a virtual Past Master, cannot sit in a Lodge of installed Masters or actual Past Masters.

"We have a law in Pennsylvania that prohibits a Chapter from conferring any of the capitular degrees, except upon one who has been elected therein.

"The Grand High Priest has authority at sight to confer the degrees, but he has no control over nor can he confer the Past Master degree, therefore Companions from Scotland who are not in possession of the Past Master's degree cannot visit our Chapters.

"The Chapters under the General Grand Chapter of the United States (Pennsylvania does not belong to it), have the control of the Past Master, and Chapters subordinate to it have the right to confer it on foreign Companions. Therefore your Aberdeen Companions can be admitted there and take the degree and be healed as they call it.

"In Pennsylvania we will admit your Companions in our Mark Lodges, and if they have passed the Chair into our M. E. Masters Lodges and Chapters.

"I enclose you a leaf taken from the Voice of Masonry, referring to the matter; I will do what I can to have the matter put into such a shape as will be satisfactory to your Supreme Grand Chapter.

"With kindest regards,

"Your Brother,

"CHAS. E. MEYER,

"*Rep. of Grand Chapter, Scotland.*

"To L. MACKERSY, G. S. E.,

Rep. of Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania."

"518 WASHINGTON STREET, }

"BOSTON, 22d October, 1877. }

"*Dear Sir and R. E. Companion:*

"Your valued favor of the 3rd instant, with official communication from R. E. Companion L. Mackersy, G. S. E. of the M. E. Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, were forwarded by R. E. Companion Gossip, and reached me in due course.

"In reference to the matter complained of, that Royal Arch Masons from Scotland, not in possession of the 'Past Masters' degree, visiting Chapters in America, have in some instances been refused admission, cannot, except through ignorance, occur in a Subordinate Chapter in Nova Scotia.

"At the organization of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, in 1869, a clause was provided in its Constitution to enable its Subordinates to confer, either or all of the degrees, Mark, Past, and Most Excellent upon visiting R. A. Masons not in possession of them, *free of charge*, which you will find on referring to its published proceedings for 1872, in the hands of the Grand Scribe E., to wit:

"'When any Companion from without the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia presents himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produces satisfactory proof of his having been exalted to that degree,

each and every Chapter shall have liberty to, and may confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, on such Companions who have not heretofore received them, free of charge, except a fee to Grand Chapter for registry and certificate.'

"The latter part 'except a fee,' &c., relates only to Companions joining as members. This regulation enables a Companion from either Scotland or England to be present, and if necessary take part in the work of the Capitular Degrees. If working or conducting business in the Royal Arch only, Companions from without the Jurisdiction can be admitted without the necessity of their receiving either of the intermediate degrees, although such admission would necessitate the omission of certain ceremonies in both opening and closing, which doubtless will at once occur to you.

"I have deemed it advisable in the interest of the M. E. Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, to place R. E. Companion L. Mackersy's letter in the hands of M. E. Companion A. F. Chapman, P. G. H. P. of Massachusetts, and General Grand Knight of the United States of America, who has been recommended, and I believe accepted, as the Representative of the M. E. Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, near the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts. Companion Chapman will, I am sure, give this important matter his immediate and careful attention, and will furnish you with the Regulations of his own Grand Chapter, and that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, bearing upon the subject, and will use every means in his power to carry out the views of your August Body as set forth by its Grand Scribe E.

"In May last I changed my residence to Boston, U. S. A., and notified R. E. Companion L. Mackersy of the same. I have also severed my connection with St. Andrew's Chapter in Halifax, N. S., and therefore am no longer a member of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia. This latter step was absolutely necessary, in order to qualify myself for membership in a Chapter here. I have been anticipating a communication from the Grand Scribe E. for some months.

"In the meantime I shall be most happy to attend to any commands and furnish any information in my power.

"With great respect and personal regards, I am,

"Dear Sir and R. E. Companion,

"Fraternally yours,

"S. R. SIRCOM.

"ALEX. HAY, Esq.,

Grand Representative Grand Chapter, Nova Scotia."

"TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, 21st December, 1877.

"To LINDSAY MACKERSY, Esq.,

G. Sec., Sup. G. Chapt., Scotland.

"*Dear Brother and ex-Companion :*

"Your letter of September 20th, addressed to Companion Charles Hunter, Representative of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, near the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, and by him sent to Companion John Woolverton, Representative of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, near the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, was placed in my hands by Companion Woolverton for examination and answer. As far as the Jurisdiction of New Jersey is concerned, your letter

could have been answered without any delay; but I desired to settle the question in regard to *all* the Grand Chapters of the United States. In order to do this, it was necessary to communicate with the officers of five Grand Chapters, which I have done, and from whom, after long waiting, I have received replies which enable me to answer your letter so far as it relates to all of the Grand Chapters of this country.

"There are thirty-nine (39) Grand Chapters in the United States, thirty-four (34) of which (New Jersey among the number) render full allegiance to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and are governed by its Constitution, Laws, and Edicts. Sections 5th and 6th of Article 3rd of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, U. S., are as follows:—

"That any Worthy Companion, from without the Jurisdiction of the United States, who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produce satisfactory evidence of his having received that degree, that each and every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter have liberty, and they are hereby authorized, to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master on such Companions (who have not heretofore received them) to the end that they may be healed, and thereby become regular Royal Arch Masons, free of charge.

"That the Subordinate Chapter so conferring said degrees shall be exempt from paying any dues therefor."

"From this you will see that a Royal Arch Mason from any country would have no difficulty in visiting a Chapter in New Jersey, nor would he be subjected to any expense in doing so.

"The Grand Chapters of Rhode Island and Texas claim to have seceded from the General Grand Chapter, U. S., although the General Grand Body has never admitted the validity of the claim. The Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia are entirely independent Bodies, never having had any connection with the General Grand Chapter.

"In answer to letters addressed by me to the officers of these five Grand Chapters, I have learned that in the Grand Chapters of Rhode Island and Texas the same rule would be followed as in New Jersey. In Virginia and West Virginia a Royal Arch Mason, who had not received the P. M. (or any other inferior) degree, would be allowed to visit while the Chapter was at work in the degrees of which he had possession, and he would not require to take any other degrees; but he would be compelled to retire while the Chapter was at work in any degree which he had not received. If any foreign Royal Arch Mason desired to become a member of any Chapter in these two Jurisdictions (Virginia and West Virginia), the degrees which he had not received would be conferred upon him without any charge. In Pennsylvania, a Royal Arch Mason, who had not received the P. M. degree, would be required to receive and pay for such degree before he could be admitted as a visitor.

"On pages 15 to 17 of Proceedings of General Grand Chapter, U. S., for 1877, (a copy of which I have sent to your address this day), you will find a case reported precisely analogous to the one which you present.

"You will oblige me by presenting this communication to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland at its next meeting.

I am, dear Companion, yours fraternally,

THOS. J. CORSON,

G. Sec. G. Chap., New Jersey.

“ Case No. 3.—M. E. M. Degree ; Irish R. A. M. ; Residence, etc.—Questions propounded by M. E. Companion J. Woolverton, G. H. P. of New Jersey, through Companion Thomas J. Corson, Grand Secretary, etc.:—

“ Facts stated.—‘ A Royal Arch Mason, now residing in Pennsylvania, who is a member of a Chapter at Naas, Ireland, desires to visit Siloam Chapter, at Camden, in this State. He has never received the Most Excellent Master’s degree, which is not conferred in the European Chapters. Would it be allowable to confer the M. E. M. degree upon, or communicate it to him, in order to enable him to visit, as done in our commanderies with the Red Cross Order, when the Canadian Templars desire to visit?’

“ Adding: ‘ He also wishes to join Siloam Chapter; to do which, it is supposed he must obtain his dimit from the Irish Chapter.

“ ‘ 1. Can he be admitted to Siloam Chapter?

“ ‘ 2. Can the missing degree be conferred anywhere in the United States, while he is a member of the Chapter at Naas, or will he have to dimit?

“ ‘ All obstacles to his receiving the degree being removed, can he receive it in New Jersey, while a resident in Pennsylvania?

“ ‘ Can he not select his Masonic residence?’

“ Answer.—(Feb. 16th, 1875.) 1. He cannot be permitted to visit Siloam Chapter until he receives the M. E. M. degree. It is one of the regular degrees in the American System of Chapter Masonry. In opening and closing a Chapter, part of the secret work of the degree is practised, which one not in possession of the degree, though a Royal Arch Mason, could not join in, and would not be permitted to witness.

“ 2. By Section 5, Art. 3, Constitution of the General Chapter, U.S., when any worthy Royal Arch Mason, from without the Jurisdiction of the United States, who has not received the degree of Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Master, shall present himself to any Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, such Chapter is authorized to confer the degrees upon him, to the end that he may be healed.

“ A similar provision seems to have been embodied in the report of a Committee of the General Grand Chapter as early as 1824. Compendium, p. 135.

“ It seems the Companion in question is only wanting the M. E. M. degree. The fact that he is not limited from the Irish Chapter is no obstacle to his receiving the degree in Siloam, or any other American Chapter, because, in the Irish Capitular System, the degree is unknown, and it will be no invasion of their system to confer upon one of their Companions a degree not belonging to their system.

“ 3. The fact that he resides in Pennsylvania can be no valid objection to his being healed by a Chapter in New Jersey, which he wishes to visit, for the conferring upon him the wanting degree is but a healing process.

“ If he were not a Chapter Mason at all, and desired to receive the Chapter degrees in New Jersey, while a resident in Pennsylvania, they could not be conferred without a concession of jurisdiction. But

he is a Royal Arch Mason under a foreign system older than ours, and a member of an Irish Chapter, and wishing to visit a New Jersey Chapter, or any other American Chapter, is the door to be closed upon him because he has not a lower degree peculiar to the American rite, and unknown in the jurisdiction from which he hails? Surely not; but he may be healed and admitted. The conferring upon him the M. E. M. degree does not affiliate him with the Chapter, or make him a member of the appendant Lodge, but merely prepares him to enter the Chapter as a visitor. Why should Pennsylvania object?

"4. If you mean by the fourth question to inquire whether, after obtaining a dimit from the Chapter at Naas, he can affiliate with the Siloam Chapter of New Jersey, while a resident in Pennsylvania, I am not sure if that is not the subject of local regulation. Possibly, on general principles, a Mason may select his Masonic residence; and cases sometimes occur where his affiliation without the jurisdiction of his place of residence is very proper as a matter of convenience. For example, where there is a Chapter of a neighboring jurisdiction nearer or more convenient of access than any Chapter within the jurisdiction of his residence.

"I should not favor, however, the policy of permitting a Companion residing in one State, convenient to a Chapter, to affiliate with a Chapter of another State."

On December 18th, 1878, Comp. Henry Inglis resigned his position as Deputy Grand Principal, and Col. A. C. Campbell was elected in his place.

The receipt of our Proceedings is acknowledged with thanks.

The Committee were directed to inquire whether the Grand Chapter of Quebec ought to be recognized by the Supreme Chapter, and to report to the next Quarterly Communication.

The principal officers are:—

M. E. Comp. Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. the Earl of Mar and Kellie, Grand H.

R. E. Comp. Hon. and Rev. A. C. B. Hamilton, Grand J.

R. E. Comp. Lindsay MacKersy, Grand Scribe E.

IRELAND.

The Grand Officers for the year 1880, are:—

Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D., King.

Charles Capel Macnamara, LL.D., Deputy King.

John Fox Goodman, High Priest.

George Hill Major, Chief Scribe.

Rev. J. A. Galbraith, F. T. C. D., Captain of Host.

George J. Norman de Arcy, J. P., Sup. of Tab.

Rev. Renjamin Gibson, A. M., Royal Arch Capt.

John Hodges, Capt. of Sect. Veil.

Robert W. Griffin, LL.D., Capt. of Purple Veil.

Charles Foot, Capt. of Blue Veil.

Rev. Thomas J. Welland, A.M., Chaplain.

Maxwell C. Close, D.L., M.P., Treasurer.

Samuel B. Oldham, Registrar.

William J. Welland, Janitor.

Richard L. Stevens, }
William Townley, } External Janitors.

The Stated Convocations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland for 1880 will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, on the following Wednesdays, viz:—February 4th, May 5th, June 30th, and November 3rd, at Eight o'clock, p.m.

The Royal Arch Board of General Purposes meets at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, on the Friday preceding each Quarterly Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, at Four o'clock, p. m. All communications to be laid before the Board should reach the Grand Registrar's Office at least one week previous to each meeting.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Instruction will meet at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, on the following Wednesdays in 1880, viz:—January 28th, February 25th, March 24th, April 28th, May 26th, and November 24th, at Eight o'clock, p.m.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter Committee of Inspection meets on the Third Monday in each month (except August) at Four o'clock, p.m. Names of Candidates should be sent in at least one week previously.

All communications should be addressed to Comp. Samuel B. Oldham, Grand Registrar, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.

ALABAMA.

The fifty-third Annual Convocation was held at Montgomery, December 2nd, 1879.

M. E. Comp. James H. Joiner, G. H. P.

He reports an increasing prosperity among the whole people, and nothing has occurred to indicate a want of harmony among the Craft.

He issued a Dispensation for one new Chapter.

We copy the following excellent remarks:—

"Here permit me to remark, that the Grand Chapter has adopted a plan for the dissemination of the Work and Lectures of the several Degrees, and yet the members fail, to a very large extent, to receive the benefit of it. After a long connection with the Grand Chapter, I cannot call to my mind a single instance when the Work has been reported in full. It is my privilege to know that it is no fault of the Committee. I am also cognizant of the fact that the Committee have labored, with praiseworthy energy, to discharge their duty to the full extent of their obligation. But in the too great hurry to close and get home, they have been denied the privilege of reporting as they desired. This, it seems to me, is unjust to the Committee, and a positive wrong to the representatives of Subordinate Chapters. Many, perhaps a majority of them, are sent from their Chapters for the sole purpose of obtaining a correct knowledge of the Ritual. In view of the facts above stated, permit me to suggest that the highest interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction demands that the Committee on Work be allowed ample time to make a full report, as it is the principal, if not the only means, of disseminating the work of the Grand Chapter."

The following resolutions were adopted:—

“Resolved,—That all Chapters the charters of which have been forfeited for the non-payment of Dues, be, and the same are hereby, authorized to re-organize, elect officers, and continue work, until the Convocation of the Grand Chapter in 1880, when, if their dues are paid for that year, they shall be fully reinstated.”

“WHEREAS, The improper and, as we believe, pernicious doctrine, that a Chapter may be legally opened though the charter of the same be not in the Chapter Hall, or building, is advocated by some Grand Chapters, and may be adopted by others; therefore, the Grand Chapter of Alabama is impelled to adopt the following—

“Resolved,—That no Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter shall be opened or holden at any time, unless the Warrant from this Grand Chapter shall be present in the Chapter Hall at the time; and any Chapter holden under other circumstances shall be esteemed irregular and its doings void.”

“Resolved,—That all the Chapters, the charters of which have been forfeited, and which shall be revived under the resolution adopted by this Grand Chapter—remitting the dues of said Chapters—shall be authorized to elect officers, should necessity require such action.”

Chapters, 34; represented, 28; exalted, 57; members, 927.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. P. J. Pillans, and notices Canada for 1878 and 1879.

M. E. Comp. James H. Joiner (Talladega), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Daniel Sayre (Montgomery), Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA.

The twenty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at San Francisco, April 8th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. John M. Brown, Grand High Priest.

His duties had not been laborious, nor his official acts numerous. He was aided by the comparative completeness of the Constitution, which is now generally understood, and

fortunate in the prosperity and harmony of the Subordinate Chapters. He was prevented from carrying out his intentions as to visiting the Chapters, by absence from the State on public duties, and by a serious and protracted illness.

He granted a Dispensation for a new Chapter at Ukiah.

He strongly recommends "The Hand-Book of the Chapter,"—a Monitor prepared by the Grand Lecturer, conforming to the Ritual and Lectures adopted by the Grand Chapter.

The former Grand Secretary, Comp. C. L. Wiggin, has been expelled for malfeasance in office. He was a defaulter to the Grand Chapter for over four thousand dollars.

Comp. Browne reports a number of decisions, among which we find the following:—

"That all questions in the Chapter, except election of officers, voting for candidates for the degrees, or for membership, and in Masonic trials, shall be decided *viva voce* or by a show of hands.

"That the ballot is strictly secret and inviolable, nor should any attempt be made, in any manner, to discover the Companion who may have cast a negative ballot, for no Companion can be required to divulge his vote, nor to assign reasons therefor, but can exercise the unquestionable right of balloting in the negative as often as the occasion is present demanding, in his opinion, such a vote."

"I was informed that a Companion had applied for membership repeatedly and was as often rejected, and still persisting, his application was, on motion, laid on the table. Exception was taken by a member, and my opinion solicited. I replied that a Companion has the right to renew his application for affiliation after each rejection, and this may continue indefinitely. His application is entitled to, and should receive, a respectful treatment. A vote to lay the application on the table is unmasonic and out of order. I directed the High Priest to cause the petition to be taken from the table, referred to a proper committee, and upon its report to dispose of the case."

The state of the Craft is thus reported by the Grand Lecturer:—

"The Grand Lecturer made a verbal report, from which it appears:

That the utmost harmony prevails, and that, notwithstanding the stringency of the times, the Chapters are prosperous throughout the jurisdiction. That the usual number of degrees have been conferred during the year, and that the officers generally have been zealous and faithful. That the duties of the office have been light, comparatively speaking, owing to the fact that thirty-six of the High Priests elected were Past High Priests; and having the work already, the services of the Grand Lecturer were not required. Certificates of qualification were issued to *all* the High Priests elect."

The "Hand-Book of the Chapter," by Comp. T. H. Caswell was adopted as the standard Text-book of the jurisdiction.

On the status of Companions suspended by the Lodge for non-payment of dues, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:—

"WHEREAS, Several of the Grand Chapters of the United States have declared that a Companion suspended by his Lodge of Master Masons for non-payment of dues, is not suspended in his Chapter, but continues a member in good standing of the same, with all its rights and privileges; and

" WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter desires to emphatically declare the foregoing to be a violation of Masonic law and usage, and gives countenance to suspended Masons; therefore be it

" *Resolved*, That the Chapters subordinate to the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California be directed to require of all visitors for examination from other jurisdictions, prior to admission, a declaration in the following words: 'I do not stand suspended or expelled for any cause whatever; neither has my name been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues in my Lodge of Master Masons, or my Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.' "

This resolution is identical with one passed by the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, and, as it affects us, we will probably have something to say about it hereafter. In the meantime, we may here record our opinion, that the declaration complained of is not a violation of either Masonic law or usage, but, on the contrary, it is strictly in accordance with both. The Grand Chapter of California followed the example of Pennsylvania in this matter, on the earnest recommendation of the G. H. P., Comp. Browne, who believes

that the declaration thus to be exacted of visitors "is eminently proper, and should have rigid enforcement," because in California suspension from the Lodge is suspension from the Chapter. It does not appear to have occurred to Comp. Browne, that the exclusion of visitors who are in good standing in their own jurisdictions, is a violation of Masonic comity, and a direct blow at the universality of our Institution.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary, and contains a good notice of our Proceedings of 1878.

M. E. Comp. N. W. Spaulding (Oakland,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. T. H. Caswell (San Francisco,) Grand Secretary.

The twenty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at San Francisco, April 13th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Nathan W. Spaulding, G. H. P.

Forty-one Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest was prevented by sickness from visiting many of the Subordinate Chapters. He was pleased to see a proper sense of the moral worth and excellence of Royal Arch Masonry, as well as a commendable zeal to conform to the prescribed work.

He issued one Dispensation for a new Chapter.

We copy one of his decisions:—

"A member of a subordinate Chapter having been guilty of unmasonic conduct in open Chapter in the use of language unbecoming a

Mason, and refusing to obey the gavel when called to order, and having appeared in open Chapter at the next stated meeting thereof and apologized for what he had done at the previous meeting (said apology being accepted by the Chapter), and charges having been subsequently preferred against the Companion by a member of said Chapter, the question was asked, 'Whether his accepted apology was a sufficient punishment for the deed, or should the charges be entertained the same as if no apology had been made?' I replied as follows: The offense stated was certainly a very grave one. The apology made to the Chapter shows an evident disposition on the part of the offending Companion to right the wrong, and may be very properly considered by the commission in mitigation of punishment when considering that question, but it does not stop proceedings on the charges; they must be tried the same as if no apology had been made. The offense was against Masonry, and cannot be atoned for in a manner chosen by the offender."

We think that this decision is correct, and we also cordially approve of the following remarks on the duties of the members of a Chapter towards visitors:—

"It is the duty of every Chapter to entertain its visitors by every mark of courtesy and attention. Yet how often does it occur that a Companion, possibly a stranger in a strange land, his heart yearning for fraternal Companionship, seeks the Masonic Chapter, where, comparatively unnoticed, he sits silent and alone during the entire session, and is suffered to depart—a stranger still.

"This would, indeed, be considered an extreme case, and it is to be hoped that they are few and far between; still, there are too many quite analogous thereto.

"One great benefit of Freemasonry is its social, fraternal tendency and teaching—the exercise of that courtesy and kindness due from one Mason to another, and which no true Mason can ever allow himself to withhold. An unsocial Lodge or Chapter is a Masonic deformity; and in it are generally to be found errors that are antagonistic to the very fundamental principles of Masonry. No Chapter can be what Masonry intended it should be, without the warm and genial influence of sociability."

The following amendment to the Constitution did not receive a two-thirds vote, and was therefore not concurred in:—

To the M. E. the Grand Chapter of California :

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the proposed amendment to Section 5, of Article XVII., of the Constitution, which now reads: 'No Chapter shall confer the degrees for a less sum than fifty dollars, and in every case the entire fee shall accompany the application,' so that it shall read as follows: 'No Chap-

ter shall confer the degrees for a less sum than *thirty* dollars, and in every case the entire fee shall accompany the application,' have considered the subject, and submit the following majority report:—

“While your Committee believe that it is not desirable to cheapen the benefits conferred by the Order, and that in many localities it might, in this manner, be unwise to add to the risk of the reception of unworthy material, they still believe this is a matter that may be safely left to the individual Chapters, to determine what is the best policy in each locality. The adoption of the amendment is therefore recommended.”

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

“*Resolved*, That it shall be the imperative duty of every Subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction, before it shall confer the Royal Arch degree upon any candidate, to require of said candidate a compliance with regulation No 3, relative to the selection and recording of his mark.”

Fifty-one Chapters return 129 exalted, and 2,904 members.

The Grand Secretary has an excellent Report on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1879 receives due notice. On the question of opening a Lodge of any of the Subordinate Degrees without first opening the Chapter, he says:—

“Our practice is, and always has been, in accordance with that outlined by the Canada resolution; nor do we construe the resolution in the light in which Comp. Larner appears to understand it. The degrees are not conferred independent of the Chapter or without notification to Royal Arch Masons to be present. The usual notice of a meeting of the Chapter is given through the daily papers, but, for what purpose, is not stated. It is the business of Royal Arch Masons to attend and see for themselves. If the work is in the Mark degree, a Lodge of Mark Masters is at once opened, and the work proceeds; and, when the degree is conferred, the Lodge is closed and the brethren retire. The idea that the degree of Mark, Past, or Most Excellent Master cannot be conferred without first opening the Chapter, then calling off and opening on the degree to be conferred, then closing in that degree, calling on the Chapter again and formally closing it, to our mind smacks strongly of absurdity.”

We also copy his remarks on Special Dispensations:—

“This is unmistakably true, and, in our opinion, nothing more thoroughly militates against promptitude in these matters than the facility with which special dispensations are often obtained. They are, at best, only instruments to evade the law, and their general and

indiscriminate use is prolific of evil. The power to grant them is placed in the hands of the Grand High Priest, in order that, in cases of emergency only, which seldom arise, certain provisions of the *lex scripta* may be waived. This power, however, should be exercised with great care and discretion, and when this is done it will not be found that there is a growing tendency on the part of the Chapters to evade the law."

M. E. Comp. Wiley J. Tinnin (Weaverville,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Thomas H. Caswell (San Francisco,) Grand Secretary.

COLORADO.

The fifth Annual Convocation was held at Denver, September 18th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Edward H. Collins, G. H. P.

The annual address opens with an expression of thankfulness at the returning prosperity. The blessings of life are being generously bestowed upon them. Their long night of adversity has closed, and the sun of prosperity illuminates the scene on every hand.

The Grand High Priest decided that it was not proper for Chapters U. D. to receive petitions for affiliation.

He issued Dispensations for two new Chapters.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That section 19 of the by-laws pertaining to Subordinate Chapters, be amended by striking out the last sentence, as follows:

"A fee of at least twenty dollars shall in all cases be deposited before a ballot can be taken."

"*Resolved*, That Royal Arch Masons, to be in good standing in this Grand Jurisdiction, must be, and continue to be, in good standing in

their respective Blue Lodges, and that their status in the Lodge must govern and control their standing in their Chapters, and the Subordinate Chapters in this Jurisdiction will govern themselves accordingly."

The subject of the status of Mark Masters residing in that Jurisdiction and belonging to Mark Lodges in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, to report at the next Annual Convocation.

There are nine Chapters in this Jurisdiction, with a membership of 398.

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. John R. Hambel (Georgetown), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Ccmp. Ed. C. Parmelee (Georgetown), Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

The eighty-second Annual Convocation was held at Hartford, May 11th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Dwight Waugh, G. H. P.

The address contains the following excellent remarks on the qualifications and duties of the presiding officer of a Chapter :—

"Although what I have to say may contain nothing novel, or which has not been said many times before, it seems to me nevertheless to be pertinent and necessary to this jurisdiction, and worthy of frequent repetition. The High Priest of a Chapter should not only be a man of good morals, and fair standing in the community in which he lives; he should not only be a zealous Mason and anxious to promote the best interests of the Chapter over which he is called to preside; but he should also be especially careful to preserve our ritual, and ceremonies, in their purity and integrity. He should always bear in mind, that to him, for the time being, is committed the work pro-

mulgated by the Grand Chapter, and that he is to regard it as his special trust. He should remember that the Grand Chapter alone is responsible for the work adopted and set forth, and that it is not within his province to add to, or take from, or in any particular, change this ritual committed to his charge. He should not only be careful that his own use and rendering of this ritual are in strict conformity to the standard, but he should exact the same care and correctness from his subordinates.

“Especially should he be careful to see that nothing is allowed in conferring the degrees that shall annoy or offend the most fastidious candidate. That the degrees of Past Master and the Royal Arch, those fields where liberty, if not restrained and guided, is so apt to degenerate into license, are preserved from that levity and roughness which mar the work, and destroy the usefulness of so many Chapters. He should instruct his Companions that to teach the duties appertaining to the Chair, is not to insult or maltreat those we are professing to teach. That to exemplify the lesson of humility, is not to degrade the candidate to the reptiles crawling. That to illustrate the rough and rugged path of life, is not to reduce our ceremonies to the level of a college hazing. I charge you, my Companions, on whose heads rests the High Priest’s mitre, be swift to rebuke all untimely levity and trifling, with those who are receiving the beautiful lessons of the Chapter. Our candidates seek to be exalted to the sublime, let them not be degraded to the ridiculous.

“If you would have our Chapters what they were intended to be, sources of light and instruction, calculated to impart great moral lessons, and the means of elevating all who pass their portals, I beg you to take home with you these few plain suggestions, and make them guiding principles in the government of all our Chapters.”

A form of devotional exercises for opening and closing the Grand Chapter was adopted, and ordered to be printed on suitable cards for the use of the Grand Chapter.

Among the Grand Representatives recognized and welcomed, we notice the name of Comp. William R. Higby, from Canada.

The Committee on the Consolidation of the Chapter and Council Rites presented the following resolution, which was adopted:—

“*Resolved*,—That our Representatives to the General Grand Chapter be instructed to oppose any proposition there presented which is designed to secure the adoption by the Grand Chapters of the custody and control of the degrees of Cryptic Masonry.”

Charters were granted to two new Chapters.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. John H. Barlow, and notices Canada for 1879.

M. E. Comp. Dwight Phelps (West Winsted), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Joseph K. Wheeler (Hartford), Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE.

The twelfth Annual Convocation was held at Wilmington, January 21st, 1880.

M. E. Comp. A. G. Cox, Grand High Priest.

The past year has been a quiet one throughout this jurisdiction. Harmony and good feeling prevails, but no great amount of activity.

There are six Chapters, with a membership of 320.

The Grand High Priest visited all the Subordinate Chapters during the year. He also appointed a number of Representatives to sister Grand Chapters. He reports the following decision:—

“ ‘Inasmuch as no action of a Subordinate Chapter can set aside a provision of the Grand Chapter, which in this case, requires the payment of fifty cents for every member in good standing in a Subordinate Chapter, and as no member can be deprived of any of his rights, benefits and privileges, without the necessary form of trial, after specific charges have been brought, and reasonable time for defence given; therefore, until such trial is had, and the penalty of suspension declared, the member must be regarded as in good standing and subject to the payment of Grand Chapter dues.’ ”

A committee was appointed to consider the question of

conferring the Council degrees upon Chapter members within the limits of the Grand Chapter, and to report at the next session of the Grand Chapter.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

“*Resolved*, That the resolution passed at the annual Convocation of 1876, relating to the suspension of a Companion from membership in Subordinate Chapters without trial, be and is hereby rescinded.

“*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter a Companion can *only* be suspended, after due trial, and by a vote of the majority of the Companions present, at a regular Convocation of the Chapter, duly summoned for that purpose.”

“*Resolved*, That the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary be instructed to make arrangements, if possible, with the proper officers of the Grand Lodge for the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, to occupy a portion of the room now occupied by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge.”

We also notice the following:—

“On motion of M. E. Companion C. J. Hall, the Grand High Priest was instructed to prepare and present to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, at the next Triennial Convocation, a memorial representing the hardship under which two Chapters in this jurisdiction are now laboring, owing to the passage of the resolution requiring that there shall be present nine regular Royal Arch Masons, *members of the Subordinate Chapter*, before any business can be transacted or work done. And he was further instructed to ask such modification of said resolution as will allow Convocations for business or work, when nine regular Royal Arch Masons are present.”

Comp. W. G. W. Lewis was prevented by illness from preparing the usual extended Report on Correspondence. The receipt of our Proceedings is acknowledged.

M. E. Comp. John W. Lawson (Wilmington,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. H. B. McIntire (Wilmington,) Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The thirteenth Annual Convocation was held at Washington, December 10th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Matthew Trimble, G. H. P.

His duties as Grand High Priest were exceedingly light. He was not called upon to decide any question in Jurisprudence, except a few unimportant matters, which were easily disposed of. Peace and harmony prevail in the outer and inner Courts of the Temple, and their relations with other jurisdictions were of the most friendly and fraternal character. On his visits, he says:—

“Accompanied by the Grand Officers, I have made the usual ‘annual visitations’ to the several Chapters, and the reports which were read to you in detail at each of these visitations show a steady and healthy growth of the Order; and from all that I have seen, I am well satisfied that the ‘work’ which has been done by our constituent Chapters during the past year is ‘good work, true work, and square work, and just such work as we are authorized to receive.’ The officers have been faithful and efficient, and have exhibited a commendable degree of enthusiasm and assiduity in the discharge of their various duties, and the books and records of the several Chapters have been kept in strict conformity with the rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter. At these visitations an address was delivered before each Chapter, and to the companions who so kindly consented and so well and acceptably performed their part of the work my warmest and sincerest thanks are hereby tendered.”

He pays the following well deserved compliment to Comp. Noble D. Larner, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

“I desire most earnestly to call the attention of the companions of the several Chapters to the great importance of the reports which are made by our ‘Committee on Foreign Correspondence.’ The service performed, and the enormous labor connected with the preparation of these very able reports, is done ‘without the hope of fee or reward;’ and we should show that we appreciate this ‘work of love’ by a more general perusal. I know of nothing that gives us a pleasanter or more concise history of the yearly workings of the craft; and the general regrets for the absence of a report last year that reach us from abroad

show plainly their great importance, and the high esteem in which our Committee is held by other Jurisdictions. As we are promised an extended review this year, I hope that every Companion will read the report in full, and 'improve himself in Masonry.'"

Comp. Trimble has also the following very sensible remarks on the subject of inviting Master Masons to apply for the Degrees in the Chapter:—

"I have been frequently asked whether I considered it unmasonic to invite a Master Mason to apply for the Capitular degrees. I simply desire to say that the position assumed by our Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in connection with this subject, in their report for the year 1877, appears to me materially correct. Being well satisfied of the unblemished moral character and unswerving integrity of the brother, there is nothing unmasonic in extending a courteous invitation to complete his Masonic edifice as a builder in all the courts, chambers and arches of our Mystic Temple.

"Our Mark Master is apparently a compliment to the Fellow Craft, and our Royal Arch a consummation of the Master Mason's degree of the Blue Lodge; and I cannot think that it would be even fair to our brother that we should silently lay our hands on our doors and close them to the 'worthy and well qualified;' and the rule which the Master Mason follows towards those whom he calls 'profane' loses its force and effect when applied to the seeker after 'further light in Masonry.'"

There were no matters requiring the consideration of the Committee on Grievances.

Comp. John Lockie, the Grand Visitor and Lecturer, made sixty visits to the eight Subordinate Chapters, and reports them in a healthy and harmonious condition. They have been very fortunate, generally, in the selection of their officers, thereby keeping alive a degree of interest, which can only be done by a wise selection of Companions to fill these important stations.

The following is the report of the Committee on Work:—

"Your Committee on Work have respectfully to report that subsequent to their appointment the work and lectures of the Capitular degrees were duly transmitted to them by their predecessors—the former Committee on Work—in compliance with the constitutional

requirements governing, and that they have been prepared, at all times, to discharge the duties incident to, and connected with, their appointments.

"They have much pleasure, however, in stating to the Grand Chapter that the instructions of the Grand Lecturer have been so thorough, so complete, that during the Capitular year no appeal has been had from his decisions in questions of work and ritual, and consequently the duties of your Committee have been correspondingly easy and pleasant.

"This commendable condition of affairs must be, and we are persuaded it is, as gratifying to the Grand Chapter as it is suggestive of the ability and indefatigability of the Grand Lecturer.

"The uniformity in work as presented by the officers of the several Chapters during the past Capitular year has been flatteringly alluded to by companions of other jurisdictions temporarily sojourning in this city. This fact renders it incumbent on the newly elected officers—by earnest and untiring efforts—to make themselves not only proficient in the work, but in the philosophy and symbolism of the sublime teachings and principles they will be called upon to enunciate. Your committee can assure them that their efforts in that direction will be met with the most happy and gratifying results, which, when properly directed, will greatly tend to command and retain for this Grand Chapter the respect and high consideration she has heretofore held among her sister Grand Chapters throughout the world."

On motion of Comp. Jos. S. McCoy, P. G. H. P., a memorial page was ordered to be set apart to commemorate the death of Comp. Thos. J. Corson, of New Jersey.

On motion of Comp. N. D. Larner, a donation of \$40 was made to the Library of the Grand Lodge.

Comp. Jos. S. McCoy was received and recognized as the Grand Representative of the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales.

Comp. Noble D. Larner reports on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1879. We may inform him that a "serving Companion" is one who receives the Chapter Degrees without being required to pay any fees therefor. We would not, of course, allow a Brother, who was not also a Royal Arch Mason, to file for a Chapter.

M. E. Comp. Matthew Trimble, (No. 614, 13th Street, N. W., Washington,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Chas. W. Hancock, (No. 1440, Corcoran Street, N. W., Washington,) Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA.

The thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at Jacksonville, January 21st, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Enos Wasgate, Grand High Priest.

One new Chapter was organized. Comp. Wasgate condemns in strong language the levity sometimes indulged in while conferring the degrees. He says it entirely destroys the beautiful symbolism, and renders the solemn ceremony a farce. He thinks it is the cause of the lethargy in his own and other jurisdictions.

It was decided that a Chapter U. D. has no power to try and expel a member.

Comp. R. J. Perry was received with honors as the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

There are now 11 Chapters on the roll, and about 300 members.

M. E. Comp. Robert J. Perry (Key West,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Com. D. C. Dawkins, (Jacksonville,) Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA.

The fifty-seventh Annual Convocation was held at Macon, April 30th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. William J. Johnson, Grand High Priest.

The past year has been one of peace, prosperity and plenty. In his opening paragraphs, the Grand High Priest has the following excellent remarks:—

“Not since the termination of the late sectional war have the seasons been more propitious to the farmer. Not since the war has our soil yielded more generously and abundantly of its fruits. Not since the war have our people been more hopeful, cheerful and contented. All classes are becoming more thrifty, and are striving to improve and better their condition. Our cities and towns are manifesting this spirit of improvement by extending their limits and erecting new buildings, and our desolate and waste places are being built up.”

“Although the past has been marked in our social and political relations with sectional strife, with feelings of wrath, envy, hatred and oppression, yet I have an abiding faith in the tenets of our Order, and can but hope that the *charity* which is the corner-stone in our Masonic edifice, is at last to be the peace-maker—the live mission of the whole—when peace, harmony and brotherly love shall prevail in all sections of our common country.

“I believe that progress—moral, social and religious progress—is of the mind and heart of Masonry, that its stages will be marked by the recognition of justice, the advancement of knowledge which leads to wisdom, the increase of honor, magnanimity and truth, and the universal spread of virtue as well as the growth of love.”

He decided that a Secretary could not be dimitted until his successor was installed. Their finances are low, and it is feared that Capitular Masonry in Georgia is not progressing, as no application was received for a new Chapter. Comp. Johnson strongly advocated the most rigid economy.

An amendment to the Constitution was proposed to the effect that the Grand Convocations should be held alternately in the cities of Macon and Atlanta. The vote resulted in 50 yeas to 35 nays, but as a two-thirds majority was required, the amendment was declared lost. On the next day a re-consideration was moved, and carried by 79 to 16.

On the subject of the amalgamation of the Council degrees with the Chapter, the following resolution was carried:—

“*Resolved*,—That a committee of five be appointed by this Grand Chapter to confer with a similar committee, if one can be appointed by the Grand Council—if none can be appointed then with the Thrice Grand Illustrious Grand Master—with a view to a plan of action by which the Council Degrees of Royal and Select Master can be merged with this Grand Chapter, and report such recommendations as they may see proper at our next Annual Convocation.”

In future the Report on Foreign Correspondence is to be discontinued, owing to their depressed financial condition. We observe, however, that they paid mileage and *per diem* allowances to the extent of \$1,227.40, and we cannot help remarking that the truest economy would be practised by the total abolition of these allowances.

Comp. Samuel Lawrence has an excellent Report on Correspondence, and notices our Proceedings of 1878.

M. E. Comp. J. W. Oslin (West Point,) Grand High Priest.
R. E. Comp. J. E. Blackshear (Macon,) Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

The thirtieth Annual Convocation was held at Chicago, October 30th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. John D. Hamilton, G. H. P.

He issued Dispensations for four new Chapters. On the condition of the Craft, he says:—

“From the reports of the several officers received by me, and now on file with the Grand Secretary, I find the Craft harmonious and not a case of grievance reported to them. The Chapters, so far as they have reported to them, seem to be in good financial condition; in fact, in some districts, nearly all the Chapters have money over, and a plenty to spare for charity, should the needy knock at their door.

There are some, however, that have gone in debt for halls and regalia, as well as some unnecessary things, and these with the hard times; have become so embarrassed that their existence is but a living death decapitation alone will bring them relief."

He made the following decisions:—

"1. A Chapter has no right to confer the Royal and Select Master degrees on a non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason.

"2. A Chapter has no right to confer the Past Master's degree, except on an actual candidate for the Capitulary degrees in their regular order.

"3. In a Chapter trial, if the accused pleads guilty, the Chapter must fix a penalty.

"4. A Chapter cannot affix any other penalty for non-payment of dues than that prescribed by the Grand Chapter By-Laws."

On the subject of suspensions for non-payment of dues, he has the following remarks:—

"The unusually large loss of membership through dismission and suspension for non-payment of dues is reasonably accounted for by the inability of many Companions to pay their dues because of the general and protracted depression of business. Many Chapters have determined to lop off all non-contributing timber and take another lease of life, starting anew with diminished numbers—all earnest workers. It is hoped and believed that many of those suspended Companions will seek restoration as business revives, and that a year of financial prosperity will see our noble Order numerically stronger than before, and far healthier for the pruning.

"Much trouble seems to arise in Chapters to know just how to proceed to deal with Companions for non-payment of dues. I have had several letters asking how they should proceed to get charges properly before the Chapter. One Companion writes: 'We understand that charges must be preferred before any action can be had, but we do not distinctly understand what steps are to be taken before charges can be preferred.' I have suggested that summons be issued to appear and show cause why charges should not be preferred for non-payment of dues, believing that no Royal Arch Mason who is absolutely unable to pay his dues, and yet manly enough to say so, should be subjected to the humiliation of a trial."

In this Jurisdiction there are 167 Chapters, with a membership of 9,693.

The following amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter were adopted:—

"Add to Article I, a new Section, No. 13, to read as follows:—

"All Companions who may be elected Honorary Members of this Grand Chapter shall be entitled to seats therein, and the right to discuss any question before the Grand Chapter.

"Amend Section 1. Article II., by adding after the word decisions, in the sixth line, the following: 'It has also the sole power to authorize the conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Masters in Councils duly opened under the authority derived from the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of Illinois.'

"Also, after the words Most Excellent Masters, in tenth line, insert the words 'and a Council for the sole purpose of conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Masters.'

"Amend Section 2, of Article II., by inserting after the words Most Excellent Masters, in sixth line, the words 'also a Council of Royal and Select Masters.'"

In reference to the matter of written records, it was decided that the Grand Secretary should not be required to make a written copy of the printed Proceedings of the Grand Chapter.

A motion to reduce the mileage paid by the Grand Chapter was lost.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. Theodore T. Gurney, and we are sorry to see that it will be his last. He gives our Proceedings for 1878 a good notice. He approves of their plan of public Installations, because it frequently occurs that public ceremonies are of large local interest and advantage.

In his review of Iowa, he has the following comments on two of the decisions of that Jurisdiction:—

"*First Query.* Is a Companion Chapter Mason entitled to a dimit *absolutely*, upon payment of dues, without presenting cause therefor?

"*Answer.* Certainly; Masonic membership is voluntary, not compulsory.

"*Second Query.* A candidate petitions for the Capitular degrees and is black-balled, one black ball only appearing against him. The Companion casting the black ball under wrong impressions, a few days

thereafter withdraws it—what relation does the candidate sustain to the Chapter?

“*Answer.* The same relation he did before the petition. A black ball cannot be withdrawn after a rejection has been declared by the chair; but he must petition again and be balloted for, the same as if no previous petition had been presented.”

“We suppose the first to be the statute law of the jurisdiction. Be that as it may, it is a perversion of our system of government, and a precedent that may in the future justify some other innovation that will place the destinies of the Chapter under the control of a single individual. Masonry is not a toy for the diversion of its votaries, neither is its government of so loose a character that men may accept its duties and responsibilities one day, and trample them under foot the next. When a dimit is wanted, the applicant should be compelled to present a reasonable apology for his determination. It is not enough to say that he united of his own volition, and for that reason should be permitted to depart at pleasure; because in his union with the fraternity he voluntarily assumed responsibilities in which the *entire body* is interested, and for that reason it should be consulted in dimission, as upon any other question that has a direct bearing upon its welfare.

“In regard to the second decision. A ballot is supposed to represent an expression of the Chapter. If a Companion casts a negative vote under a false impression, it is not the view of the Companion, neither is it the determination of the Body. We would like to ask Comp. Daugherty, if Mr. Roe applies to his Chapter for the degrees, and he is of the impression that he is a Mr. Roe known to him as unfitted for the fraternal relation, would a negative vote be his expression or that of the Chapter, when it transpired that the person rejected was not the applicant? Coming more clearly, however, within the scope of his decision; if Mr. Roe is before the Chapter, and Comp. Daugherty is under the impression that the applicant has been guilty of an offence that demands the rejection of his application, and acts accordingly, but subsequently is satisfied, beyond question, that his impressions were entirely unfounded, would he insist that a *falsehood* should be permitted to remain an obstacle to the prompt reconsideration of a wrong perpetrated upon an innocent party? This, with much else of our jurisprudence, is the simple *ipse dixit* of some distinguished brother, that has been permitted to crystalize into a semblance of respectability. If one of our courts should convict a man and send him to prison; would law, justice or common sense insist that he should be held for the penalty, in the presence of the fact that he had been convicted upon false representations.”

Under the head of “Maryland,” we find the following:—

“Comp. Schultz errs first, in assuming that the parchment held by Lodge or Chapter is the Charter. The act of the Grand Body is the Charter, and the parchment the certificate of the fact. In the arrest of the Charter of a Constituent Body, it is not necessary that this certificate should fall into the hands of the Grand Officer to determine

the death of Lodge or Chapter. We do not suppose that Comp. Schultz would contend, that if a Master should conceal this paper, that the order of the Grand Master arresting a Charter would not be of force. The Charter, then, is always in the custody of the Grand Master, and when a Lodge is without a Master or Wardens, the authority to govern the Lodge is directly vested in him. We have invariably understood it to be the theory, that a Lodge or Chapter can never be without a presiding officer."

Canada for 1879 appears in the *addenda*. Comp. McLellan receives a merited compliment on his prompt publication of these Proceedings. He also says that the report of Comp. James Wilson, of the Toronto District, bears the impress of an intelligent and valuable officer.

M. E. Comp. Samuel W. Waddle (Bloomington), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Gilbert W. Barnard (Chicago), Grand Sec'y.

INDIANA.

The thirty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Indianapolis, October 22nd, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Martin H. Rice, G. H. P.

The representatives of 78 out of 89 Subordinate Chapters were present; exaltations, 188; members, 4,508.

The Grand High Priest made no decisions of any general importance. On their Finances, he says:—

"I am happy to state that after taking up the scrip issued last year, the Grand Chapter is now able to meet the current expenses of this year. One-half of the receipts, however, have been from sources outside of the regular annual revenue of the Grand Chapter. The present rate of dues from Subordinate Chapters does not more than one-half furnish a sufficient amount to meet the actual expenses of the Grand Chapter. It is evident, then, that one of two things must

be done, or the financial affairs of this Grand Chapter will keep getting worse and worse with each succeeding year. There must be a reduction of expenses or an increase of revenue. There can be no great saving in expenses except by reducing the per diem and mileage of members. From the result of efforts in that direction in some of the other Grand Bodies, I judge that such a proposition would not be very favorably received here, and as the next best thing to do would recommend that the dues from Subordinate Chapters be raised to such a sum as will furnish annually the necessary funds to defray the expenses of this Grand Chapter."

On account of the necessity for retrenchment, he concluded not to prepare the usual report on Correspondence.

There were no grievances or appeals.

The annual dues of Subordinate Chapters were increased to fifty cents on each member.

M. E. Comp. Thomas B. Long (Terre Haute), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. J. M. Bramwell (Indianapolis), Grand Sec'y.

IOWA.

The twenty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Waterloo, October 21st, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Abel W. Daugherty, G. H. P.

Representatives were present from 60 Chapters out of 87.

The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent address. He congratulates the Companions on the bountiful harvest, and the peace and prosperity of their great commonwealth. On the condition of the Craft, he says:—

"The growth of our Order has for the past two years suffered, perhaps, to some extent, from the organization of many secret societies

designed as institutions of assurance, guaranteeing benefits by issuing policies on the lives of their members, and it is not at all strange that many are naturally diverted from seeking admission into an Order founded purely upon faith in the "Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man;" but as the *strength* of Masonry is not measured by *numbers* alone, we need have no fears for the future growth of an Order whose principles are as enduring and as unchangeable as the oracles written by the finger of Jehovah, and transmitted by Him to Moses upon the summit of Mount Sinai. Having faith in God and the sublime principles of our Order, we will have strength in the future, as in the past, to overcome every obstacle, and, being bound together, as we are, by ties that can never be sundered, we shall be one people and one eternal brotherhood.

The year just past has been one of uninterrupted peace and harmony among the Craft. The laborers are 'satisfied with their wages;' and no complaints of any kind have come to me."

He issued Dispensations for three new Chapters, and made several official visitations. The questions he was called upon to answer relate chiefly to the amalgamation of the Council Degrees. We are glad to find that he does not believe in "proposition" fees. He says that if the By-laws of a Chapter contain a clause requiring a fee to accompany the petition of a candidate for membership, such clause should be stricken out at once.

He recommends such legislation as may be necessary for the dissemination of the Council Degrees, that every Chapter may be placed in possession of the work, and to this end, that the officers of every Chapter should be in possession of the Council Degrees before they are installed.

The following report of the Committee on Jurisprudence was adopted:—

"Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence beg leave to make a partial report:

"At the last Convocation of this Grand Chapter the following recommendations of the Committee on Finance was adopted: 'That hereafter no reports on Foreign Correspondence be made or published, but that the Grand Representatives of the several jurisdictions near this Grand Chapter be requested to present at each session a short and concise report of the doings of the several Grand Chapters which they represent.'"

"To the question whether this is constitutional or not, we reply, it is not, because it is in direct conflict with our constitution, (see p. 7, Sec. XI.); and we recommend that all that portion of the report of the Committee on Finance relating to the reports on Foreign Correspondence, including the above (see p. 30 of the Transactions for 1878,) be and is hereby rescinded and declared null and void.

"Your Committee believe that something more should be published than the bare proceedings of our Convocations. We consider it important to have a synopsis and review of what is going on in our sister Grand Chapters, and that it is mistaken policy to curtail that expense. All of the other Grand Chapters publish such reports, and we recommend a continuance of the same by our Grand Chapter."

There were no Appeals or Grievances.

On the subject of maimed candidates, a report was adopted which expresses the belief that a candidate who is maimed should not be debarred from taking the degrees, provided he can receive and communicate the signs and grips of the degrees; and that as Masonry is a speculative science, we should comply with the spirit of the institution, and not hold to technical points alone.

M. E. Comp. Almon R. Dewey, (Washington,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. W. B. Langridge, (Muscatine,) Grand Secretary. •

KANSAS.

The fifteenth Annual Convocation was held at Leavenworth, October 14th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Daniel W. Coxe, Grand High Priest.

Thirty Chapters were represented out of 41. Members, as returned, 1,287.

The address of the Grand High Priest informs us that the peace, harmony and zeal which heretofore have characterized

their fraternal labors still spread over them their benign influence, and the bright prospects of the future add their lustre to the hopes of the present. He also says:—

“This idea that the lessons of our Royal Craft teach an internal, as well as an external truth, is as important as it is beautiful. Its great importance may be better appreciated by considering that the natural influence of these internal truths has a direct tendency to lift our thoughts through the symbols which embody them, up to the Divine source of all truth. By encouraging this tendency we will often be preserved from the vexation of doubt and the debasing influence of error, since our minds will be so preoccupied by the heaven-aspiring influence of Divine truth, that doubt and error can find no lodging place in it. This is a conservative influence which we all need in these days of unsettled moral conviction. If, now, the teachings of our Royal Craft can do this, they will perform an important work for the nobler aspirations of our higher nature. Let us see how this result may be attained.

“In the art gallery in the city of Dresden there is a small chamber in which reposes the world-renowned Sistine Madonna. All who look upon its striking beauty with an artist's eye are filled with an inexpressible delight. Their very soul is pervaded with a subtle sense of grandeur and sublimity. This peculiar influence arises from the fact that, as you gaze intently upon the remarkable picture before you, its *internal*, as well as *external* beauty casts a radiancy of glory upon the inner consciousness. In the back ground, behind the Mother and Child, are innumerable blissful faces, gazing with enraptured delight toward an ineffable, but unseen Holy. It seems to me that there will be something of this same ‘enraptured delight’ in the soul of the intelligent Mason, who reverently contemplates the real meaning of the expressive symbols of our Royal Craft. His attention—the eyes of his soul—will be fixed upon their *interior*, as well as their *exterior*, beauty and truth; and the interior beauty of the sublime truths which his mind perceives, like the blissful faces of the cherubs in this famous picture, points his thoughts directly toward the unseen Holy of God's presence, power and love. He will be impressively reminded of the Shekinah whose effulgence shone in brilliant splendor from the mercy seat, between the overshadowing cherubim, when the glory of the Lord filled the Lord's house.

“Thus a knowledge of the interior beauty and truth, which the symbols of our Royal Craft contain, will develop in us a more profound and fitting regard for that God whom we, as Masons, are taught to reverence and serve; and, by leading the mind to the contemplation of the *spiritual* realities of our existence, it will induce us to aspire after the higher life which these realities set before us. By this two-fold influence we will be effectually preserved from that debasing error which has a marked tendency to reduce everything to bald materialism, and to deny the existence of God. No true Mason can be a materialist; nor can he deny the existence of God without completely subverting the entire foundation and destroying the symmetrical superstructure of Masonry. As long, therefore, as he adheres to the internal teachings of his profession which relate to this subject, he

must continue to put his trust in God and believe in the immortality of the soul. This train of reflections might be indefinitely continued; but we must hasten to the consideration of other important matters."

Dispensations were issued for two new Chapters.

The following resolution was introduced, and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:—

"Resolved,—That the Standing Regulation adopted at the Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, October 14, 1878, making previous service in the office of Excellent King or Scribe necessary to qualify a Companion Royal Arch Mason for the office of High Priest be, and the same is hereby repealed."

The committee reported against the resolution, and their report was adopted by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary, Comp. John M. Price, declined a re-election.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. John M. Price, and notices the Proceedings of Canada for 1878 and 1879. He does not agree with our rule as to the effect of Lodge suspension on Chapter membership, but he believes, with us, that each branch of the Masonic family is the sole judge of crimes against itself.

M. E. Comp. Erasmus T. Carr (Leavenworth,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. John H. Brown (Wyandotte,) Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

The sixty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Louisville, October 20th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. G. D. Buckner, G. H. P.

He says that the transfer of the Council degrees to the Chapter has resulted in success. The efficiency of the officers of the Chapters in conferring the Council degrees compares favorably with that of the Council officers under the old system, and in many instances the work has been better exemplified since the change.

He reports the appointment of R. E. Comp. Thomas Sargent, as their Representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

He concludes his address as follows:—

“In conclusion, I desire to call your attention to the Masonic Widows and Orphans’ Home—the pride of our hearts, the bright star of Kentucky Freemasonry—whose gentle light has been shed over those bowed in the shadows of affliction; the temple whose hospitable walls have sheltered those little ones in the storm of adversity. I am not unmindful that this grand body is in no condition to contribute to the Home, but let us forget not that it is our Home, and, as such, let our hearts always warm toward it, and in the prospective commercial prosperity which seems to be dawning upon our country, let us labor with fervency and zeal, and endeavor to renew our subscriptions.”

The Proceedings are brief, and entirely local in character. There were no grievances or appeals. The re-print of the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter from its organization was ordered to be continued, so as to include the year 1853.

Comp. H. A. M. Henderson reports on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1879.

M. E. Comp. John H. Leathers (Louisville,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Joseph H. Branham (Louisville,) Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

The thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at New Orleans, February 10th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. William S. Benedict, G. H. P.

Eleven Chapters were represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is very brief. The past year has been quiet, and good order has everywhere prevailed. The dark cloud of adversity which has been hanging over the State for many years, is slowly lifting with the brightening influence of prosperity. He recommends serious consideration to be given to their financial condition.

There were no appeals or grievances.

Comp. Joseph P. Horner, as chairman, made a verbal report on Foreign Correspondence, and submitted suggestions as to a contemplated report of the Committee. On motion, the Committee were granted further time.

A motion to repeal Section 19 of the General Regulations, in relation to mileage and *per diem*, was laid over until the next session.

There are 29 Chapters; six make no returns. There were 20 exaltations; and the membership is 996.

M. E. Comp. Edwin H. Fay (State Capital), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. J. C. Batchelor (New Orleans), Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

The fifty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Portland, May 6th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Arlington B. Marston, G. H. P.

Representatives were present from 42 Chapters out of 43.

The Grand High Priest reports one new Chapter. A meeting of the Grand Officers was held at Bath, in the previous August, for the purpose of securing among themselves perfect uniformity in the work and lectures of the several degrees. All were present except one, and the revision gave the gratifying assurance that the Subordinate Chapters in the six Districts would practically receive the same instruction.

The work of the Chapters has somewhat increased over the previous year. The membership has slightly decreased, owing to suspensions for non-payment of dues.

Comp. Marston made the following recommendation:—

“That a Standing Regulation be adopted, requiring all Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction to specify in their by-laws the *hour*, as well as the date, at which the stated convocations shall be holden.

“I recommend the adoption of this measure, believing that all possible means should be taken to protect every Companion in the exercise of the right to reject a candidate whom he honestly believes to be unworthy, and whose advent would mar that harmony which we profess to regard as one of the chief characteristics of our Order.”

In the report of the Grand Secretary, we find the following:—

“The present year completes a quarter of a century since the Records of the Grand Chapter were placed in my charge. At that time there were eight Chapters in the jurisdiction; there are now forty-three chartered Chapters and one under dispensation; the number of members was then four hundred, and is now more than

four thousand; while the Charity Fund, which was a little over five hundred dollars, at present amounts to upwards of four thousand.

"The encouragement, forbearance and confidence which I have met with throughout this long term of service have made the labor a pleasure, and I trust I shall be able to surrender the Archives in better condition than I received them."

Two Chapters were consolidated into one. We copy the procedure to be observed in such cases:—

"1. That Montgomery Chapter, No. 2, and St. Bernard, No. 23, be consolidated upon the conditions stated in the votes of the convention of the members of the two Chapters, as contained in the record hereunto annexed, and under the name of Montgomery and St. Bernard Chapter, No. 2.

"2. That the charter of Montgomery Chapter, No. 2, after having this action of the Grand Chapter endorsed thereon, shall be the charter of the consolidated Chapter.

"3. That the charter of St. Bernard Chapter, endorsed in such manner as the Grand High Priest shall direct, be delivered to the consolidated Chapter, to be placed in the Archives with the records of the two Chapters.

"4. That the Grand High Priest, by himself or such Companion as he shall specially depute therefor, shall cause the members of said Chapters to be assembled; and shall then proceed to organize the Chapter by delivering to them the charter endorsed as above provided; and thereupon he shall preside during the election of officers and cause them to be installed; and make due return of his proceedings to the Grand Secretary, to be entered upon the records of the Grand Chapter."

A standing regulation was adopted, as follows:—

"*Resolved*,—That the hour for the stated Convocations of Chapters shall be seven o'clock in the evening, from September to April, inclusive, and half-past seven for the other months, unless another hour is fixed by the by-laws."

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented the following report on an apparent conflict of two of the provisions of the Constitution as to the jurisdiction of Subordinate Chapters:

"That the Constitution requires that a rejected candidate apply to the Chapter which rejected him; but it also requires a candidate to apply to the nearest Chapter: there is no exception to the rule in either case, except that a candidate may apply to any Chapter, with the consent of the Chapter having jurisdiction: this exception exists in both cases.

"The Constitution of the Grand Lodge is precisely the same: and it has been decided by the Grand Lodge that a candidate, rejected by one Lodge but residing within the jurisdiction of another, may apply to either with the consent of the other, and *only* with such consent.

"This seems to be the only possible construction to give effect to all the provisions of the Constitution, and the committee recommend that the Grand Chapter declare such to be the construction of the Constitution."

The Report on Correspondence is as usual by Comp. J. H. Drummond, assisted by Comp. John S. Derby. They review all the Grand Chapters in the United States and Canada, and England (Mark,) Scotland and Ireland.

In his notice of Alabama, Comp. Drummond, as to an endowment scheme, says:—

"A committee was appointed to investigate and report, at the next Annual Convocation, upon a plan of endowment providing for the payment of \$1,000 to the heirs of all deceased Royal Arch Masons who participate therein. We hope that the Grand Chapter will not assume the paternity of this scheme. It is *business* and not *benevolence*; and a Grand Chapter has just as much right to set up a grocery store and sell goods at cost to 'Royal Arch Masons who participate therein,' or to endorse such a plan, as it has to enter into or endorse the one proposed; neither of them is Masonry."

Under the head of "California" he has the following:—

"He also advised the Grand Chapter to adopt the resolution of Pennsylvania in relation to Masons suspended for non-payment of dues by Lodge or Chapter, concerning which we may have something to say when we come to the review of that Grand Chapter. Of course a Grand Chapter has the *power* to forbid the admission of any class of visitors; but we doubt the Masonic *right* to exclude as visitors any Royal Arch Masons in good standing in their own jurisdiction, unless amenable to some special personal objection. In this and some other jurisdictions, the penalty for non-payment of dues is suspension from, or deprivation of, membership: this is based upon the old law, that Lodge membership conferred only the additional rights growing out of the Lodge organization, and that without it a Mason enjoyed all the rights growing out of having been made a Mason; we believe this to be the true doctrine, and, therefore, that an unaffiliated Master Mason, (no matter how he became unaffiliated) may be a Royal Arch Mason in good standing. While the Pennsylvania resolutions do not go so far, the Grand Chapter of California decided that 'membership in a Lodge is *indispensable* to membership in a Chapter.'"

Canada for 1878 receives a good notice. After quoting our remarks of that year on the standing of Companions who are suspended by their Lodges, Comp. Drummond says:—

“ He replies, but does not answer our question.

“ It is not whether a non-affiliated Mason is in good standing; it is not whether the members of the Chapter are not as well qualified to try an accused as his Lodge; but it is whether an expelled Mason—one no longer a Master Mason in any sense of the term—can be a Royal Arch Mason. When a part equals the whole, he may be—and not till then. We perceive that he is defending the express provisions of the Constitution of his Grand Chapter; but we believe that no case has ever happened in which a Chapter or the Grand Chapter has ever reversed the decision of the Grand Lodge and ventured to declare an expelled Master Mason to be a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, and what is more, we don't believe the case ever will happen. The Chapter degrees do not alone make a man a Royal Arch Mason; it takes all seven degrees; and no man is a Royal Arch Mason who does not possess and cannot lawfully use all the degrees; from Entered Apprentice to Royal Arch, inclusive. It is true that it seems a hardship, that a Companion may lose his Chapter rights by action of his Lodge. But such is the nature of the Institution, and arises from building on degrees over which we have no control. If we build upon the foundation of another, over which we have no control, we must not complain if he removes it and tumbles down our house without our consent. ' It is no real hardship, for we understood the situation when we builded, and we accepted the consequences. We must still ask our esteemed Companion, 'Can one, who is not a Master Mason, be a Royal Arch Mason.' ”

We were under the impression that we had answered this question very clearly, but it appears that we were mistaken. Our reply was intended for an answer, but the difference of opinion will probably continue to exist. We have certain provisions in our Constitution governing these cases. We believe they are proper and consistent. They define the relations, and all the relations, that exist between our Chapters and Lodges. When a question arises as to these relations, we decide it according to the provisions of our Constitution. In other jurisdictions, different laws prevail, and the same question would there receive a different answer. We are still of the opinion that the two bodies, Lodge and Chapter, should be considered as separate and distinct organizations; that membership in each should be determined by the laws

of each, and that membership in one should not be dependant on the laws of the other.

Comp. Drummond also quotes some of our remarks on the question of objections after a clear ballot, and then says:—

“The logic of this is, that every Master Mason has the right to become a Royal Arch Mason. But if that were so, no ballot would be required, and one could be stopped from becoming a Royal Arch Mason only by filing charges in the Lodge or Chapter. But we have always been instructed that a man may be a good Master Mason, and yet not qualified to be a Royal Arch Mason. As it is, Comp. R. seems to regret that we do ‘have the privilege of the ballot.’ Now, we hold that there is no more stigma cast upon a candidate by rejection by objection, than by rejection by ballot. And further, that a Mason, who rejects a candidate by ballot for reasons for which we would not object to him, is acting contrary to his obligations.

“Another logical result of Comp. R.’s position is, that our danger is in not getting enough into the Institution, rather than in getting too many in: and that if a man can get by the ballot, and it is uncertain whether he will be a good Royal Arch Mason or not, we are bound to give him, rather than the Institution, the benefit of the doubt.

“And still another is, that our greatest care should be to protect candidates, rather than our associate Royal Arch Companions.

“We have not so learned Royal Arch Masonry, and do not propose so to teach it. And, while he congratulates himself upon making converts to his doctrine, we do not think he can name more than four Grand Chapters in this country which sustain it.”

Every Master Mason has the undoubted right to become a Royal Arch Mason. We might even go so far as to say that every Master Mason should become a Royal Arch Mason. The Royal Arch is the completion of the system of Ancient Craft Masonry. It is only in the Arch that the complete symbolism of our Institution is taught. It is a necessary complement of the third degree, and it contains the instruction that every Brother should receive. Our teachings are deficient without it; and, therefore, we say that every Master Mason has not only the right to become a Royal Arch Mason, but that he ought to be one in order to complete the circuit of his Masonic instruction.

The fact that one part of the system is now separated from the other and controlled by a different management, makes no difference in the argument. Nor do we lay any stress upon the fact that in early times the Arch was confined to a comparatively limited number. The separation was the out-growth of circumstances and the limitation to actual Past Masters has long since been done away with.

Every Master Mason may not be able to become a Royal Arch Mason. Similarly, an Entered Apprentice may not be able to become a Fellow Craft. The initiate may be stopped for want of proficiency, and the Master may be stopped by the ballot. The ballot is required because the completion of our system is under a distinct body. It is one of the results of the separation, and as such we must submit to it. We do not regret that we "have the privilege of the ballot." No human system can be perfect, and our Institution is no exception to this general rule. We can not shut our eyes to the fact that unworthy men are sometimes admitted into Masonry, and the ballot in the Chapter furnishes an additional safeguard to prevent the unworthy from attaining to a full participation in our mysteries.

We do not agree with the other "logical results" which Comp. Drummond essays to draw from our position on this "objection" question, nor do we think they can be established by any fair process of reasoning. We still believe in the justice of our position, and although the number of Grand Chapters in this country holding the same views may be small, it is increasing. We know that "a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump," and we will live in hopes. "*Magna est veritas et prevalebit.*"

In his notice of Massachusetts, Comp. Drummond says that "the idea of keeping out a man by an objection, *until it is withdrawn*, is exceedingly unreasonable, while giving it the

mere force of a rejection by ballot is no more unreasonable than giving the right to reject by ballot."

He also says that Grand Representatives "don't do any harm—or anything else, so far as we ever knew."

Under "Nebraska," he gives their Grand Lodge rule as to granting dimit:—

"Our Grand Lodge has a good rule on this subject: a Brother may ask for and receive, by vote of the Lodge, a dimit at any stated meeting, without previous notice; or he may give notice, at a stated meeting, that at the next, he shall take his dimit, and if, when the next stated meeting comes, he has paid his dues, and no charges have been filed against him, he is entitled to his dimit without any vote of the Lodge."

And he has the following remarks on the Council degrees:—

"We think that they are destined to "go to the wall" in all jurisdictions which do not retain the Grand Council organization: because some twenty of the jurisdictions will maintain the degrees under that system, and refuse to recognize any, acquiring them in any other manner, as lawfully in possession of them."

On the Pennsylvania resolution, which we have noticed in our review of California, Comp. Drummond gives expression to his dissent therefrom in the following clear and forcible manner. We fully agree with him in this matter, and we hope other Grand Chapters will speak out just as plainly:—

"The action involves a principle of the gravest importance, and is a dangerous attack upon the rights of other Grand Bodies. The general law is, that the *status* of a mason in his own jurisdiction is his *status* everywhere; to this there are few exceptions; one is, that a mason may be convicted of an offence in the jurisdiction in which he commits it, and be expelled from the fraternity; another is, that he may have so violated the law of a jurisdiction as not to be recognized in the jurisdiction. The effect of the resolution is, that the *status* of all Royal Arch Masons shall be determined in Pennsylvania by the laws

of its Grand Chapter, and not by the laws of the jurisdiction in which they reside and to which they owe obedience. Of course the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has the *power* to decline to admit *any* visitors, or recognize, as Royal Arch Masons, *any* hailing from another State; but equally, as a matter of course, in doing so, it violates the masonic obligations.

"The preamble is ambiguous; but, read in the light of the Report on Correspondence, it ceases to be so. If the preamble means suspension from all masonic rights, the first clause is erroneous: if it includes mere suspension *from membership*, the second clause, that it is 'a violation of masonic law and usage,' is erroneous: in any aspect, the preamble errs, either in fact or in law.

"A favorite expression in the report to which we have alluded is, that a certain Grand Chapter decided 'that suspension is not suspension,' whereas the decision really was that *one* kind of suspension is not a *different* kind of suspension. For example, Maine is included among those which decide that 'suspension is not suspension.' The law in Maine is, that for non-payment of dues the only penalty which can be inflicted is suspension from, or deprivation of, *membership*, and shall not extend to suspension *from Masonic rights*, except those growing out of *Lodge membership*; also unaffiliated Masons are *Masons*. Now, when our Pennsylvania Companions say that a decision that suspension *from membership* in a Lodge does not affect his Masonic standing [and therefore does not affect his standing in the Chapter] is 'a violation of Masonic law and usage,' they commit a gross blunder, and state, unwittingly, what is not true. The law and usage in Maine, for *one hundred and ten years*, has been the same; in Massachusetts, the law and usage have been the same for a still longer time: the only difference was, that in 1769, members in arrears of dues were dropped, as a matter of course, without any action, whereas, in 1879, they cannot be dropped without notice and an opportunity for a hearing. And, after a careful investigation of this matter, we believe that not until within *fifty* years, and we think that not until within *thirty-five* years, was an instance ever known in which any greater punishment than suspension from, or deprivation of, membership was inflicted, or provided by law to be inflicted, for non-payment of dues; or that suspension from, or deprivation of, membership, had any greater effect than to make the party an unaffiliated Mason in good standing. The old law said to the Mason, 'You may pay dues and be a member of the Lodge, or not pay them and not be a member; you are *free* to take either course you please.' The whole system of *compulsory* dues is a modern invention, and our Pennsylvania Companions are challenged to find an instance of it, in Pennsylvania or elsewhere, prior to the anti-Masonic storm. Now, then, if Maine, Massachusetts and others choose to follow the *old* law and usage, but Pennsylvania chooses to adopt a *new* law and usage, with what force can *she* say that *they* are violating 'Masonic law and usage,' even if we admit that her law is the better and wiser one?

"Each jurisdiction has the right to prescribe the penalty for non-payment of dues: and no other jurisdiction has any right to interfere. When the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania undertakes to add to the penalty one's own jurisdiction has imposed, she is guilty of a violation of Masonic law and usage, as well as of an insult to her Sister Grand Chapters.

"We admit her right to refuse to allow *any* unaffiliated Mason to visit her Chapters, and, if she should adopt such a regulation, we should have nothing to say. But when she says that another Grand Chapter cannot admit such visitors, or cannot limit the penalty for non-payment of dues to a suspension from membership, not affecting their general Masonic rights, without a 'violation of Masonic law and usage,' she commits a gross blunder. In other words, while none can complain of the resolution she adopted, the preamble mis-states the law and is grossly insulting to the other Grand Chapters."

M. E. Comp. Joseph M. Hayes (Bath,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Ira Berry (Portland,) Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At a Quarterly Convocation, held on March 11th, 1879, the following report was adopted:—

"On the question involving the affiliation of initiates, your Committee are of opinion that the ballot for the degrees should include the right of membership, with the simple condition that the initiate should sign the By-laws. Two considerations force us to this conclusion:—First, the adoption of such a rule would be the most effectual way to prevent making non-affiliated Masons; Second, this is substantially the law and usage in nearly all Grand Jurisdictions outside of Massachusetts."

On June 10th, 1879, the following report of the Committee on Work and Lectures was adopted:—

"The Committee having had the work submitted in Secret Session in March last, put in clear and legible form, without any interlinings: They recommend that the Grand High Priest for the time being shall be its true and lawful custodian, and that he shall transmit it as he shall receive it, to his successor in office, and that he shall not permit it to be copied, either in whole or in part.

"They further recommend that the Grand Lecturers, for the time being, and the High Priest of any Chapter may, under the sanction and at the discretion of the Grand High Priest, have access to it, and that the work taught by the Grand Lecturers shall be the same as is hereby authorized, and that all exemplifications of work by sanction of the Grand Chapter shall be in strict accordance with it.

"And further, that the manner of giving and receiving instruction shall be in no other way interfered with."

The seventy-ninth Annual Convocation was held at Boston, December 9th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Waterman, G. H. P.

The work was exemplified in all the degrees.

The following report was adopted:—

“The Committee to whom was referred the subject of alteration of the Grand Constitution, have carefully reviewed the various Articles, and beg leave to submit the following Report:

“No change seems to be urgently demanded, with the exception of amendments to Articles XIV, and XVIII. The amendment to Article XIV., which was proposed by the Grand High Priest in his Address at the last Convocation, is concurred in. The amendment to Article XVIII., proposed in the same address, is agreed to with these additions, viz.: after the words ‘to which he first applied,’ insert ‘within six months after such rejection, nor,’ and after the words, ‘and the Scribe shall be three,’ insert, ‘and the consent of the Chapter.’”

“Article XVIII. will then read as follows:

“‘No candidate whose application may be rejected in any Chapter under this jurisdiction shall be exalted in any Chapter other than that to which he first applied within six months after such rejection, nor without a recommendation from nine members of said Chapter, of whom the High Priest, King, and Scribe shall be three, and the consent of the Chapter; and it shall be the duty of every Chapter under this jurisdiction to communicate all rejections of candidates to this Grand Chapter.’”

“While your Committee consider the above alterations imperative, in view of the occasional difficulties arising between Chapters in the matter of jurisdiction over rejected candidates, they also are of the opinion that *unwise* tampering with the Constitution is greatly to be deplored. They, therefore, after due deliberation, consider any other amendment at this time to be unnecessary.”

There are 72 Chapters, returning 327 exaltations, and 9,157 members.

The Report on Correspondence is, as usual, by Comp. J. W. Dadmun, and is more than usually interesting. In his notice of California, he has the following remarks on the

resolution adopted by that Grand Chapter, as to Lodge suspension, which we have already noticed in this report:—

“In the first place the preamble, to use a mild term, is equivocal. It fails to make a distinction between suspension from *membership* and suspension from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, a distinction that has always been made in some of the oldest jurisdictions in this country. Secondly, taking suspension in the sense in which it is used in the preamble, it is not true that ‘several of the Grand Chapters of the United States have declared that a Companion, suspended’ from all the rights of Masonry, ‘for non-payment of dues, is not suspended in his Chapter.’

“The second part of the preamble is also false. It assumes that Pennsylvania and California are acting according to old Masonic law and usage, and that other jurisdictions are ‘countenancing suspended Masons.’ Every Grand Chapter, so far as our knowledge extends, takes the *status* of a Master Mason as defined by the Grand Lodge of its own jurisdiction. For more than a century the usage of Massachusetts contradicts the assumption, and not being a mere babe in the family of Grand Chapters, we do not like to be accused of departing from the old landmarks, established by the Grand Lodge before Chapters were born.

“Look a moment at the condition imposed in the resolution: ‘Neither has my name been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues in my Lodge of Master Masons, or my Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.’ Is having one’s ‘name stricken from the roll’ a Masonic crime? Is such an one a suspended or expelled Mason? suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry? The best Masonic law and usage say, No.

“The adoption of the preamble and resolution is an infringement of jurisdictional rights. Ever since independent Grand Lodges were formed, each Grand Lodge has fixed the *status* of Masons within its own jurisdiction, and the *status* so fixed has been recognized throughout the Masonic world. Now Pennsylvania and California come forward and say, *if any Master Mason’s ‘name has been stricken from the roll of members for nonpayment of dues in his Lodge or Chapter,’* he is not in good standing, and must be treated as an expelled Mason. Hitherto membership in the Fraternity—acquired by initiation—has been governed by common Masonic law, and membership in subordinates by special laws of the jurisdiction in which they are located. Now an attempt is made to break up this order of things, and make ‘striking from the roll’ an evidence of Masonic crime.

“We admire the consistency of California in not adopting the ‘Mississippi Plan’ without consulting the General Grand Chapter; but we do think it strange that *she* should adopt the Pennsylvania embroglio without first submitting so grave a subject to the Parent Body.

“We object to the last clause of the resolution, because it is an interference with jurisdictional rights, particularly the right of each Grand Body to fix the *status* of its own members. Of course, the object of the resolution is to impose a new condition on visitors from other jurisdictions, a condition, too, that relates wholly to member-

ship in subordinate bodies, and not to membership in the Fraternity.

"In Massachusetts, it is not competent for a Lodge to suspend or expel a member from Masonry for non-payment of dues. The highest penalty for such a delinquency is suspension from *membership*; therefore suspension from membership in the Lodge, does not affect the standing of a Companion in his Chapter. This has always been the usage in Maine and Massachusetts, as well as in many other jurisdictions."

Canada for 1879 receives a good notice. On the decision of M. E. Comp. Menet, he says:--

"We understand by the above decision that the action of the Lodge, in such cases, is not final; that the Grand Chapter of Canada must pass judgment in all cases before a Companion can be deprived of his rights as a Royal Arch Mason. But can a Chapter do otherwise than confirm the decision of a 'Craft Lodge,' if one of its members has been suspended from *Masonry*? We do not see how it can, and we believe that a matter of so much importance should be provided for in every Grand Constitution."

He says that the amendment to the Constitution proposed by Comp. Brown is in conflict with the law and usage of Capitular Masonry in the United States. With them, if the High Priest is absent, the King must preside, and if both these officers are absent, the Scribe must preside.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Waterman, (Boston,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Zeph. H. Thomas (Cambridgeport,) Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.

The eighty-second Annual Convocation was held at Baltimore, November 11th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Edwin L. Parker, Jr., G. H. P.

Their Committee on Credentials is styled the "Committee

of Conference." They reported ten Chapters represented. There are twelve Chapters, with a membership of 1,159.

The Grand High Priest reports the death of Comp. Enoch S. Courtney, their Senior Past Grand High Priest, and one of the faithful in the early days of the Grand Chapter.

He appointed Comp. George L. McCahan as Grand Secretary, in the place of Comp. Wm. A. Wentz, who had removed to Chicago.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:—

"Harmony is apparent in all the Chapters, and they are doing as well as could be reasonably expected, considering the heretofore general depression of business. I have unofficially repeatedly visited the several Chapters within the City, with the view of acquiring a thorough knowledge of their condition, and a more intimate acquaintance with their members and officers; and although I am enabled to report an increase in the number of exaltations over the preceding year, I regret, with a due regard for truth, to be compelled to say that the interest on the part of the members, as manifested by their attendance, has been of a most unsatisfactory character and discouraging in the extreme, and with the exception of a notable few, the attendance of Past Officers, has not been such as to afford an example worthy of emulation or inspire the members with that vim and zeal so necessary to a proper rendition of our beautiful ritual."

An old parchment Warrant has been discovered, proving that the Grand Chapter was in existence in 1797.

Comp. Parker recommends an increase of the *per capita* tax from seventy-five cents to one dollar.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient, at this time, to change the dues of the Subordinate Chapters from their present rating."

"*Resolved*, That the effort of the M. E. G. H. Priest to cull the work of any and all irregularities, thereby preserving uniformity in the rendering to the degrees, is cordially approved and merits the

thanks of this Grand Body; also, that the recommendation that it be obligatory that the work be exemplified, by either the Grand High Priest or Grand Lecturer, at such times as the former may designate, be adopted."

"*Resolved*, That the competency of an elected High Priest, as contemplated by resolution of November 9th, 1874, shall be determined by the Grand Lecturer, and his voucher shall be deemed sufficient and satisfactory."

"*Resolved*, That the Trustees be empowered to provide a safe depository for the records of this Grand Chapter, as also the valuable relics and mementoes pertaining to its history."

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Chapter of Maryland surrender unconditionally to the Grand Lodge of Maryland, the amount of stock held by it in the New Masonic Temple."

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. E. T. Schultz, and notices Canada for 1879. He holds that suspension by a Craft Lodge for non-payment of dues has no force in the Chapter; but if the suspension is for un-Masonic conduct, it is otherwise.

In his notice of California, he quotes their resolutions on this subject, and then says:—

"According to which a Companion may be in good standing in his own and such other jurisdictions whose regulations do not regard suspension for non-payment of dues by the Lodge as affecting his *status* in the Chapter, yet if he desires to visit a Chapter in California or Pennsylvania, he will find the door of the Chapter closed against him. We had supposed that a Mason in good standing in his own jurisdiction, and having a certificate to the effect, would be so regarded the world over. We consider this legislation clearly un-Masonic."

M. E. Comp. Edmund J. Oppelt (Baltimore,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. George L. McCahan (Baltimore,) Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

The thirty-first Annual Convocation was held at Jackson, January 20th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. David C. Spaulding, G. H. P.

All the Chapters, 98 in number, were represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is a practical and business-like document. He remarks on the steady improvement of their financial condition. Instead of the bankrupt treasury of a few years ago, they are not only out of debt, but have a surplus.

He reports that three Chapters had surrendered their Charters, but he thinks that the Royal Craft will not suffer therefrom, as they are much better without Chapters that lack vitality, which are only a drain upon the Grand Chapter, tending to retard, instead of aiding the great and glorious work of the Royal Craft.

He mentions the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, which is to be held at Detroit, on the fourth Tuesday of August, 1880, and he recommends the appointment of a Committee to make all proper arrangements to welcome their distinguished guests.

He decided that it was not lawful to confer the Chapter degrees upon a clergyman, or any other person, without payment of the regular fees. Also, that a Companion is entitled to a Dimit, without giving any reason for requesting it.

There are 98 Chapters, returning 335 exaltations and 6,873 members.

The business transacted was entirely local in its character, and calls for no special comment.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. Wm. P. Innes,

and it occupies 300 pages. It consists mainly of extracts. The proceedings of Canada for 1878 and 1879, receive a full notice.

M. E. Comp. Samuel H. Norton, (Pontiac,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. William P. Innes, (Grand Rapids,) Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

The eighteenth Annual Convocation was held at St. Paul, October 14th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Thos. Montgomery, G. H. P., (acting.)

The Grand Secretary announced that he had received a communication from the Grand High Priest, Comp. Edward A. Hotchkiss, enclosing his address, stating that he was sorely afflicted, and that it was utterly impossible for him to attend the present Convocation. Dispensations were issued for two new Chapters. We copy one decision:—

“*Question.* A Brother applied for the degrees conferred by—— Chapter, No. —. Has received the M.·M.·., P.·M.·. and M.·E.·. degrees. We are now informed by Companions—members of this chapter, living at a distance—that his character is bad. The time was appointed to confer the R.·A.·. degree. I have deferred the conferring of that degree for the present. The Companions say they cannot bring specific charges, but a general immorality. Can he be stopped without demanding a trial?”

“*Answer.* After a candidate has been elected, and before he has received any of the capitular degrees, any objection, without any reason being assigned, would act as a black ball, if made by a Companion who was not present at the election of the candidate. But if the Mark degree has been conferred objections must be stated, and the Chapter decide. To the question, I answer No; for the reason that a Brother who has attained the M.·E.·. degree, and against whom no specific charge can be made, has the right, and should be allowed to be heard.”

The proceedings are very brief, and contain nothing of more than local interest.

The Report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary, Comp. A. T. C. Pierson, and is exceedingly interesting. The proceedings of Canada for 1878 and 1879 receive due notice.

In reply to a remark of Comp. Melish, of Ohio, Editor of the *Masonic Review*, to the effect that the Council Degrees of the Scottish Rite have no affinity whatever with those of the York Rite, Comp. Pierson says:—

“‘Never too old to learn.’ Here we find the proclamation of a new set of Council Degrees; new of course, if those practised in Ohio have no affinity with the Council Degrees of the Scottish Rite!

“York Rite Council Degrees! We have always supposed that the York Rite was confined to three degrees.

“Among the manuscripts brought to this country by the refugees from St. Domingo, were rituals of the Select and Royal Master; side degrees given by Inspector Generals of the 33° A. and A. Rite, by virtue of their rank. After the formation of the Supreme Council at Charleston, Myers deposited with it various rituals; among them was the only known copy of the Select and Royal Degrees.

“Philip Eckel, of Baltimore, was a member of the Supreme Council.

“In the perigrinations of Jeremy L. Cross on his lecturing tours, he went to Baltimore. Eckel communicated the degrees to Cross, with authority to communicate them to Royal Arch Masons. On his return north, Cross communicated the degrees, charging five dollars for them,—the older Masons in Maryland believe that Cross was expelled for so doing;—and established Councils in New York, Connecticut, &c. All the Councils in the Northern States, to-day, and several of those in the Southern, can trace their ‘genealogy’ back to Council No. 1, in Connecticut, established by Jeremy L. Cross.

“The Supreme Council of the northern jurisdiction never claimed or exercised any authority over the degrees, and a few years since the Southern Supreme Council formally relinquished its rights. The A. and A. system is perfect in itself; it requires no side degrees to explain any of its degrees; and as the Select and Royal Degrees did not, and could not, throw any light, and having no use for them, but rather a source of vexation and bother, the Southern Supreme Council just incontinently threw them aside, to be picked up by any that chose.

“We will add, that the degrees, when properly given, are pretty and elucidative, and being so intimately connected with the Royal Arch, should be given by the Chapter after the M. E. degree.”

In his notice of Texas, we find the following:—

“We would like to be informed if the Chapters in Texas work the American system—the Mark, Past, Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees?

“And if so, from whence they derived their authority?

“The name is a matter of no moment, whether it was ‘Grand Chapter of six Northern States,’ or ‘General Grand Chapter of the United States,’ the fact is patent, that a new system was originated, owned and promulgated by the Body from its organization, viz.: a succession of degrees named Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason. It not only *arranged* the *succession* of the degrees, but in part the *degrees* themselves. It was the sole possessor of authority to confer those degrees, and no Chapter has the right to do so without its authority.

“We will grant that the General Grand Body has been very lax of its authority, and even been shorn of what little it tried to exercise. As a governing Body it is not of much account, but for all that we would be loth to see it dissolved.

“We believe that if the people north and south knew each other better, there would be more union and harmony. In bringing the people together the General Grand Body is eminently useful.

“What northern man was present at the banquet in Buffalo, and heard Comp. Pike’s speech, but whose heart was warmed up with affection for his Companions in the south, and did not each and all determine to forego differences?

“Was there a southern Companion present that did not feel like nugging Comp. Ogden at the conclusion of his speech?

“Why, those two speeches, for the good they did, were worth the whole expenses incurred by the meeting of the General Grand Body.”

M. E. Comp. Thos. Montgomery, (St. Peter,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. A. T. C. Pierson, (St. Paul,) Grand Sec’y.

MISSISSIPPI.

The thirty-second Annual Convocation was held at Jackson, February 2nd, 1880.

M. E. Comp. R. B. Brannin, G. H. P.

The address contains one decision to the effect that a petition could be received from a Companion who has resided in the jurisdiction of a Chapter for two months.

Comp. Brannin arrested the Charters of several Chapters for failing to make returns and pay dues.

He recommends that the status and duties of Grand Representatives should be defined by Grand Chapter.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:—

“The condition of all branches of Masonry in this State must be painful to every zealous member of the Order. The financial embarrassments of the past few years have left their impress on our Chapters, but the outlook is beginning to brighten, and we trust that the return of prosperity and thrift which characterizes the various pursuits of life, will not be without their good effects upon the institution.

“But, my Companions, does not the real cause of the present apathy lie nearer home than in mere financial embarrassment? Have we not failed to exercise due caution in the introduction of material; and in our haste to make Masons, neglected to scrutinize as we should the moral character of those whom we have received? Have we not been derelict in the duty of guarding well the door of the Sanctuary, and thus made ourselves responsible for the reputations of those whose evil practices have brought reproach upon the institution? The great principles which underlie the institution of Freemasonry are designed to elevate in the scale of humanity all those who profess to be governed by them. There are lessons of moral instruction to be drawn from each of these, and the good and true Mason will not deviate from the minutest principle thereof. The principles of the Order are all that anyone could demand, and a rigid adherence thereto cannot be otherwise than productive of good results. But have we at all times been governed by these principles? Have we made them the man of our choice? If the Plumb, Square and Level were applied to our work to-day by the Grand Overseer, could we stand the test? Would he pronounce it good work and true, and such material as shall be used in building the Temple?

“Freemasonry is no asylum for the profane. It is not an institution of reform. It covets no such distinction as this. The standard by which it measures a man is perfection. The man who would be a Mason must first be prepared in heart, and his reception into the Order is not for the purpose of making him a good man, but because he is already a good man, and true. One of the very first lessons which Freemasonry teaches a man, on his admission into the Order is that of Temperance, and the practice of this virtue is illustrated in a most forcible and solemn manner, and a departure from the prac-

tice thereof is a violation of a most sacred pledge. But, notwithstanding these lessons, which were so forcibly inculcated at first, and which are so often repeated, it is an indisputable fact that profanity and intemperance are crying evils in our midst, and in some instances, those who hold the emblem of power and wear the robes of office, are not free from these vices.

"Companions, 'these things ought not so to be.' Let our voices be heard to-day in condemnation of the practice of these vices. Let our influence be felt throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, as a corrective. If there be no remedy in moral suasion, then apply the law, compel the performance of obligations, and cleanse the Sanctuary, and let us, by our example, make Freemasonry what it should be, a power in the land for good."

The Grand Secretary reports that there are only 48 Charters now in force, showing a decrease in seven years of 29. The working Chapters number 36; exaltations, 47; members, 1,425.

We extract the following from the report of the Finance Committee:—

"Your Committee also congratulates the Grand Chapter upon its present financial condition, which, though not one of wealth and affluence, is so far in advance of its former experience as to become a well of joy springing up in each of our hearts.

"Your Committee, although the matter is outside of our legitimate sphere in the consideration of this report, have carefully considered the question of the cause of the alarming decrease in the numerical and financial strength of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction, and while we confess our inability to prescribe a remedy, yet the cause is apparent in the mania for co-operative assurance which is now epidemic not only in Mississippi, but elsewhere, to the manifest injury of our Order in its several branches. The secret societies that embrace in their system the feature of life insurance have placed their fees for degrees at a figure within the reach of all, giving their membership similar social advantages to those offered by ours, and, in addition to this, the insurance clause. One of two things we conceive to be essential to arrest the decline of Capitular and Symbolic Masonry in this State, and they are to reduce the fees at least fifty per cent. or incorporate into our Order, or attach to it, an insurance feature. Perhaps the remedy would be more effective were we to do both."

Also from the Committee on Chapter Law:—

"Your Committee on Law, to whom was referred the '*Decisions*'

of the M. E. Grand High Priest, would respectfully report that they find but one question decided—that is, what constitutes residence.” The same question came to them direct, and in two decisions there is an apparent contradiction, in this: that the Grand High Priest authorizes petition to be received and ballot had after two months’ residence—the committee say ‘legal residence,’ should govern. The committee would recommend that in future cases of this character ‘definite settlement in any community’ should render any affiliated Master Mason, in good standing, eligible to receive the Degrees in the local Chapter.”

The minimum fee for the Chapter degrees was reduced from thirty dollars to twenty dollars.

Each Representative of a Foreign Grand Jurisdiction was requested to submit an annual report of all matters of interest occurring in the Grand Jurisdiction, which has honored him as their Representative.

This plan has been tried in some other places, but has not succeeded. The inventor of some practical method of utilizing these “fifth wheels” to the Masonic coach, the Grand Representatives, would be hailed as a public benefactor. We would modestly suggest, that before making the reports above mentioned, they should be required to visit the several jurisdictions they represent, and make a careful examination of their condition and working. The jurisdiction visited would, of course, only be too happy to pay all the expenses.

On France, the following was adopted:—

“WHEREAS, the Grand Orient of France has discarded the use of the Bible as the Great Light of Masonry, and has also declared that a belief in God is not essential to the qualification of a man to be made a Mason, thereby with unhallowed hands, endeavoring to destroy the great and strong foundation on which the Temple of Freemasonry is created; therefore, by the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Mississippi, in Grand Annual Convocation now in session, be it

“*Resolved*, That all Masonic intercourse with the Masonic Bodies of France holding under the Grand Orient be, and the same is, hereby interdicted until such time as the Grand Orient shall again return

to its allegiance to the Ancient Principles and Landmarks of the Order."

Comp. P. M. Savery reports on Foreign Correspondence, and notices our Proceedings of 1879.

M. E. Comp. Frederic Speed (Vicksburg), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. J. L. Power (Jackson), Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA.

The thirteenth Annual Convocation was held at Nebraska City, December 16th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Francis E. White, G. H. P.

From the excellent address of the Grand High Priest, we make the following extracts:—

"It is my pleasant duty to report the Royal Craft of Nebraska in a flourishing condition, peace and harmony prevail within our borders; the few Chapters reported at our last session as having failed to make returns, or pay their annual dues, have again resumed labor, fully complied with the requirements of this Grand Body, and it is a great cause for rejoicing that our circle is complete, our chain unbroken.

"The returning tide of prosperity, predicted by my predecessor, has indeed come, and on every hand we hear the report of Peace and Plenty.

"The earth has sent forth her increase, which was exceedingly bountiful. The immense crops of the West are being rapidly exchanged for the products of the East, every branch of industry is stimulated and revived to an extent not known for years. Many of the most important branches of industry throughout our land have lain idle for some time, owing to over production and lack of demand for their respective wares; this state of affairs has ceased to exist, manufacturers of all classes are running to their fullest capacity, and even then are unable to supply the demand. Confidence is restored throughout the length and breadth of our land.

"The producer, merchant, mechanic, laborer and all classes are reaping a rich reward for their labors, and as all branches of Masonry have felt and been retarded in advancement by the depression of past

years, so will Royal Arch Masonry feel and be benefitted by this wave of prosperity, now sweeping across our country. The harvest is at hand, and ripe for the sickle,—we have only to stretch forth our hands and gather it in.

“As co-laborers in the harvest-field of Masonry let me earnestly urge and recommend you to scrutinize each and every applicant for admission to our Order, as many will seek to pass the veils and penetrate the Arch who are unworthy.

“Let us remember that a few true and trusty Companions are of more benefit to the institutions of Freemasonry than numbers who are lukewarm and indifferent, or who join through unworthy motives. The first are of no benefit whatever, and the last are a positive hindrance, often by their presence keeping out worthy Brothers who might otherwise apply. * * *

“On January 4, I appointed Companions E. F. Warren and G. H. Thummel, together with the Grand Secretary, the committee on Foreign Correspondence. Companion Thummel, for want of time to prepare a report, declined serving on the committee. As Companions Bowen and Warren were willing to write the review, I made no other appointment. I learn that Companion Warren has performed his portion of the work in a very efficient and praiseworthy manner. Companion Bowen's, of course, will be fully up to its previous high standard. The report will be presented at this convocation—something unusual, yet highly desirable.

“I am pleased to see the Grand Chapter of Nebraska returning to its first love in so important a matter as report on correspondence. We have tried the new system, and it does not prove a success.

“While I believe it would be all we have claimed for it, if our Grand Representatives did their duty, I am also of the opinion that it is not every Representative can write a good review of the Chapter he represents, and we do know there are companions within this jurisdiction who are willing and have the ability to write a report on foreign correspondence of which Nebraska may well feel proud. As Companion Warren has proven himself a skillful workman on this committee, I recommend he be retained, for a well-written report is very important, and forms no small part of our proceedings. * * *

“On September 28th, I refused permission to Orient Chapter, U.D., to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch at one meeting on a Brother who had been regularly elected to receive them. It is a question in my mind whether your Grand High Priest has the power to set aside the regulations in regard to the above, and granting him the power, I am decidedly opposed to making Royal Arch Masons in that way. Every Companion who is exalted in a Chapter should be fully and properly instructed in each degree; in this way only can the candidate comprehend the full meaning of our ceremonies. He pays his money for that purpose, and to confer the degrees in any other manner than the above is doing the candidate a great injustice, and one he would deeply feel should he wish to visit a Chapter and have even the semblance of an imposter. My experience has taught me proficiency is seldom acquired after a Companion is exalted. We cannot be too careful in this important matter. During my term of office I have endeavored, both by conversation and correspondence, to impress upon the minds of our Companions the necessity of a strict

adherence to that portion of our regulations which requires proficiency before advancement."

Comp. White issued Dispensations for two new Chapters. He ruled that when a petition is read in open Chapter and referred to a committee, it is the property of the Chapter, and cannot be withdrawn; the petitioner must be either elected or rejected.

The most important event during the year was the merging of the Chapter and Council Degrees, which is giving general satisfaction throughout the State.

The following resolution was introduced, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

"*Resolved*, That all commissions that may have been heretofore, or shall hereafter be granted, to representatives of this Grand Chapter near sister Grand Chapters, shall, unless sooner revoked, expire with the meeting of the annual convocation of this Grand Body succeeding each triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States: *Provided*, however, that should no appointment be made, the commission will continue in force until a successor is appointed."

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Body be, and he is hereby, directed to notify sister Grand Bodies of the adoption of this resolution; that being informed thereof, they may govern themselves accordingly, by recommending some suitable Companion to be commissioned as representative near their respective Grand Bodies."

The Committee presented the following report, which was adopted by the Grand Chapter:—

"Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom were referred the resolutions of Companion Wheeler, relative to the commissions of our Excellent Companions Grand Representatives of this Grand Chapter near other Grand Chapters, would respectfully report:

"That we have had the same under consideration, and would recommend that the same be adopted.

"This recommendation, however, in case it shall prevail, is not to be construed as implying that this Grand Chapter is dissatisfied with the course of any Companion holding a commission as Grand Representative of this Grand Chapter, or any desire to make a change, but

simply to inform sister Grand Chapters that they will be at liberty to recommend for appointment others of their members after a commission has been borne for three years.

"And your committee would recommend, as the sense of this Grand Chapter, that it is contrary to our views of propriety that any Companion who declines or neglects to share the burdens should not wear the honors of Royal Arch Masonry, and we therefore request the Grand Secretaries of other jurisdictions to report at their earliest convenience whether any Companion holding a commission as Grand Representative of this Grand Chapter near their own is a non-affiliate Royal Arch Mason, that his commission, in such case, may be revoked."

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. E. F. Warren, and notices Canada for 1879. He does not agree with our position as to the effect of Lodge suspension upon Chapter membership, and asks us a question, which is easily answered.

We do not believe that a charge could be sustained in a Lodge for anything which transpired in the Chapter. The Lodge, as a Lodge, could not know what takes place in the Chapter. It does not know that the Chapter is a Masonic body at all. We may also refer Comp. Warren to our report of last year, page 73.

M. E. Comp. Alfred G. Hastings, (Lincoln,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Wm. R. Bowen, (Omaha,) Grand Sec'y.

NEVADA.

The sixth Annual Convocation was held at Virginia, June 9th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Philip Seldner, G. H. P.

All the Chapters in the jurisdiction, eight in number, were represented.

The Grand High Priest reports the financial condition of the Grand Chapter to be quite satisfactory, and their relations with other Grand Chapters altogether friendly, and becoming quite intimate. He appointed a number of Representatives to sister Grand Chapters, among whom we are glad to notice the name of R. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, to Canada.

The Subordinate Chapters are reasonably prosperous, and they have done considerable work during the past year. The decisions made were not of any importance. The recommendations of Comp. Seldner were as follows:—

“I would recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to have the Proceedings left over with the printers, from organization of this Grand Chapter up to, and including, the present Grand Session, bound in a suitable book for Grand Officers of this Grand Chapter, and exchange with other Grand Chapters, the balance to be held for sale.

“I would further recommend that a law be enacted so that the High Priest of every Chapter should have power, for good and sufficient cause, to declare any appointed office vacant, and fill the same at any stated Convocation, thereby enabling him to have good and efficient officers.

“I would further recommend that this Grand Chapter have a Standing Committee on Work, or devise some other plan for the uniform working of our degrees in this jurisdiction. As it is at present, each Chapter has a peculiar work of its own.

“A number of Companions desiring a Grand Chapter diploma, I instructed our Grand Secretary to procure one for this Grand Chapter, which he did, at a cost of one hundred and twenty-five dollars for the stone. They are of a beautiful design, and can be had by any of our Companions by applying to our Grand Secretary, at a cost of five dollars.”

A Committee of five was appointed to revise the Constitution.

It was decided that a Subordinate Chapter had no power to levy an assessment upon its members and to enforce payment. They say such action is contrary to the spirit and usages of Masonry, the world over. Dues must be paid, but

all other payments of money by individual members are voluntary.

R. E. Comp. Samuel W. Chubbuck was received with all the honors as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The following report of the Committee on Jurisprudence was adopted:—

“Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest which recommends that the High Priests of constituent Chapters be empowered to remove appointed officers for cause, have given the same careful consideration, and have reached the following conclusion: An appointed officer, after he has been installed, cannot be removed during the period for which he has been appointed. Although he is indebted to a preliminary appointment for his position, yet he is subsequently installed as are elected officers, and so bound to the performance of duty for a similar period; in fact, it is the installation and not the appointment which makes a Chapter officer. We consequently believe that it would be contrary to Masonic law and usage to give the authority of removal to the High Priests of the constituent Chapters. The only cause for which an appointed officer can be removed is un-Masonic conduct, and then in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution. In such a case the position can only be filled *pro tempore* until the next annual election.”

The system of life membership does not seem to have worked well in Nevada. We would like some information as to the reasons for its abolition. Will Comp. Hammond please tell us what were the objections to it. It was done away with by the adoption of the following resolution:—

“*Resolved*,—That Section 5, Article XX, of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, is hereby stricken out; and be it further resolved,—That the Companions now holding Life Membership Certificates be requested to surrender the same to the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Secretary be, and he is, hereby authorized to draw his warrant on the Treasurer in favor of each of such Companions, for the sum of one hundred dollars.”

The Grand Secretary has an excellent report on Correspondence. In his opening he says:—

"The beginning of a Correspondence Report is very like getting married, in that it is beyond human ken to foresee how long the affair may last, or, until the end shall come, whether the better or the worse shall predominate. In spite, however, of this dreadful uncertainty, matrimony and reports will doubtless continue. We are told that it is not good for man to dwell alone. Isolation is a great breeder of that self-opinion and narrowness which so embitters human life, while travel and criticism, though it be sharp-nosed at times, lifts a man from individual ruts, and gives him a place before the broad altar fires in the open court of humanity. Socrates may be never so wise, but Xantippe alone keeps him within bounds. Many and wonderful, though not often easy of comprehension, are the lessons which solitude whispers to the ear of the expectant soul; but as iron sharpeneth iron, so it is only in the eager scramble of the busy world that man develops that self-poise and character, without which, the noblest thoughts and the holiest purposes that come from introspection are of little avail. Masonry has her hidden mysteries—lessons which are only to be learned by the aid of that light which streams from her inner sanctuary full upon the heart or the devoted seeker; yet Masonry is, pre-eminently, a Fraternity dispersed around the globe, whose every purpose is mutual benefit and social uplifting."

Our proceedings for 1878 receive a good notice, and our review of Ireland is copied in full.

Comp. Hammond does not believe in "objections after ballot," in cases where the candidate has received one or more degrees.

M. E. Comp. David E. Bailey, (Eureka,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. John D. Hammond, (Carson,) Grand Sec'y.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The sixty-first Annual Convocation was held at Concord, May 20th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. John J. Bell, G. H. P.

A tribute of respect appears in the address, to the memory of Comp. Andrew J. Thompson, P. G. H. P., and Comp. Abel Hutchins, for some years Grand Secretary.

The Grand High Priest visited all the Chapters in the State except one, and found them in a creditable condition. He endeavored to impress upon the Companions the necessity of selecting and recording their marks. He made the following decisions:—

“I. It is not necessary that the member of a Chapter should remain an affiliated member of a Lodge. He must be a Mason. When suspended or expelled from Masonry by a Lodge having jurisdiction, his membership in the Chapter is at once and by that act suspended. When the Grand Lodge revokes and annuls the action of the Lodge below, the sentence of the Lodge ceases to be operative, and he resumes his status as a Mason. No notice of this action need be communicated from one body to the other.

“II. If a brother who has been accepted, and received one or more of the degrees of the Chapter, has been guilty of any Masonic crime, it is competent for the Chapter to try him and inflict suitable penalty if the Lodge does not.

“III. If objection is made to a candidate, accepted, and who has received a part of the degrees, the High Priest should refuse to confer the degrees unless clearly satisfied that the objection is unfounded or malicious.

“IV. If a year or more has elapsed since receiving the prior degree or degrees, the candidate should not be further advanced without a new petition and ballot.”

On the subject of securing more uniformity in the work, Comp. Bell says:—

“The subject of the esoteric work has been called to my attention more during the past year than ever before. The differences in the work in the different Chapters is so great as to require action at the hands of the Grand Chapter. I had long been aware that some differences existed, but never realized their extent until by my visitations, I had them all brought before me at one view, as it were. I am now satisfied that those differences are too great to be remedied except by the Grand Chapter authoritatively declaring what the work is. And to that end I recommend that measures be taken at this Convocation to ascertain and disseminate the true and correct work. In which connection I must observe that a considerable portion of the differences arose from the imperfect method of disseminating the work the last time a similar attempt was made. The Constitution makes it the duty of the Grand Chapter to exemplify some parts of the work, but with the limited time at our disposal, and the press of other business, this duty has been neglected. It may well be worth consideration, whether a meeting for the especial purpose of exemplification, corresponding in some measure with the semi-annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, would be advisable. I would recommend

that any committee who may be appointed on work also take this matter into consideration."

On the same subject, the report of the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers was adopted as follows:—

"The committee, deeming it especially desirable that uniformity of work in the several Chapters should be secured, do cordially approve the suggestions of the M. E. Grand High Priest, and recommend that so much of his address as relates to this subject, and also the matter of a Special Convocation of this Grand Body for the exemplification of work, be referred to a special committee to be appointed at this Annual Convocation."

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Albert S. Wait. In his review of Canada for 1878, the following passage occurs, on the *status* of Companions suspended or expelled by their Lodges:—

"The argument seems to be, that the Chapter is independent of the Lodge, not only owing it no obedience, but not bound to treat its judicial determinations with respect. We had supposed, on the other hand, the very existence of Royal Arch Masonry to be one of dependence upon the symbolic degrees, and unable to exist without them; and that expulsion from the rights and privileges of Masonry by the Symbolic Lodge was an end of the whole Masonic character and existence. We are not certain whether Companion Robertson intends to announce that, a person once having received the degree of Master Mason, it is not necessary that he should remain so in order to continued membership in the Chapter, or, that having once received that degree, he still remains a Master Mason for the purposes of the Chapter, notwithstanding his expulsion by the Lodge.

"We think neither view will bear examination in the light of Masonic principle, or the Masonic Constitution. In reply to the remark, that 'no amount of suspensions or expulsions can take away the fact that a Master Mason has received the third degree,' it is sufficient to observe that, although such expulsion does not take away the fact of having received the degree, it does deprive the person of all right to the privileges of that degree, and divests him of the character it conferred; and it does take away the right of all members of the Institution to associate with, or recognize him as a Master Mason. Carrying out the remark to its results, it would establish the doctrine that an expelled Master Mason might apply for, and receive, the Chapter degrees.

"The mere depriving of membership in the Lodge is never for any offence against the Institution at large, and does not, and ought not, to affect general Masonic standing; and, of course would not, in the

absence of a special regulation upon the subject, prevent reception of the Chapter degrees, or retaining them if previously received. But the solemn judicial decision by his Lodge, that a member is guilty of a Masonic crime, and unworthy to remain a Mason, and the final expulsion of the member thereupon, we hold to be binding upon the Masonic world, in all its branches and in all its affiliations. Recognition and association in the Chapter, necessarily involves recognition and association as a Master Mason. To accord this to an expelled Master Mason, whether it be in the Chapter, or elsewhere, would render all extending it themselves liable to expulsion by their Lodges. It is no answer to this, to say that Lodges have no means of knowing what takes place in the Chapters. Let it once be established that Royal Arch Masons, as such, regard themselves as under no obligation to their Lodges, we shall very soon see that it will be treated by Lodges as a Masonic offence, itself worthy of expulsion, to be a Royal Arch Mason at all. We are free to say that, in our opinion, in such case Lodges would owe it as a duty to themselves to assume this ground; and we should expect to see them do it.

"We are fully satisfied that our Institution can be maintained on no other ground than that which regards it as a unit, the higher branches built upon and sustained by the Lodge, independent of which they can have no existence, and accepting its judicial determination as conclusive upon the Institution at large."

The drift of our arguments on this subject appears to have been slightly misunderstood. The point which we have endeavored to establish is this,—that membership in the Chapter is dependent solely upon the laws of the Chapter. It is governed by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter and the By-laws of the Subordinate Chapter, and it is not and cannot be in any way affected by the laws of any other body whatever, whether that body be a Lodge of Master Masons or Oddfellows, or any other organization.

We have a clause in our Grand Chapter Constitution which contains our law as to the position of Royal Arch Masons who have been disciplined by their lodges. Comp. Wait will find this clause quoted in full in our report for 1878, in the notice of Oregon. From its perusal it will be seen that we treat the judicial determination of the Lodge as a foundation for a like action by the Chapter. But the Chapter membership is not determined until such action is had by the Chapter.

We repeat that a Master Mason in good standing is eligible with us to receive the Chapter degrees. It is not held necessary, either here or in New Hampshire, that at the time of admission to the Chapter the applicant must be a member of some Lodge. We admit unaffiliated Master Masons; and if a Companion withdraws from his Lodge after joining the Chapter, it does not affect his Chapter membership. We do not admit Masons who are suspended or expelled, because they are not then in good standing; but if they become suspended or expelled after they are admitted they must be treated, so far as the Chapter is concerned, the same as other members, and they can only be suspended or expelled from the Chapter by the action of the Chapter. They must be summoned to show cause why they should not be suspended or expelled from the Chapter, and opportunity must be given them to defend themselves, either in Grand Chapter or before some other duly constituted authority.

In so doing we are simply preserving the right of self-government. Membership in any association depends upon the laws of the association, not upon the laws of some other body. There need be no conflict between Lodges and Chapters. Our Chapters are just as anxious to get rid of unworthy members as the Lodges are, and we think Chapters have the right to say that they are fully capable to deal with their own members and to discipline them whenever it becomes necessary to do so.

The idea that Lodges would ever treat membership in a Chapter as a Masonic offence is too absurd to be seriously dealt with; and it would only be natural to suppose that it must be a very bad case indeed that would require to be supported by such an argument.

Under the head of "Colorado," Comp. Wait puts in a good word for the much-abused Reporters:—

"It is doubtless true, that Committees on Correspondence are neither makers, nor expounders of Masonic law. Our observation, however, has convinced us that they have come to be to a very large degree the *conservators* of the Masonic law, and that as such their office is hardly less in importance than that of making or expounding the law, and that it is their proper province to give the Craft the benefit of such views as they hold upon the current doctrines coming under their review."

M. E. Comp. George W. Currier (Nashua), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. George P. Cleaves (Concord), Grand Sec'y.

NEW JERSEY.

The twenty-third Annual Convocation was held at Trenton, September 12th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. George H. Jones, G. H. P.

On the death of Comp. Thos. J. Corson, the Grand High Priest says:—

"Dr. Thomas J. Corson was born in the town of New Hope, Pennsylvania, February 12th, 1828. He graduated as a physician from the University of Pennsylvania in 1851, and settled in Trenton in 1854. Here he held many positions of trust, as a gentleman, a scholar, and physician. He was elected to the State Legislature, Superintendent of Public Schools, Physician to the New Jersey State Prison, and President of the State Medical Society of New Jersey, the oldest medical institution in these United States. He commenced his Masonic career in Amwell, No. 12, February 8th, 1854. Was exalted in Boudinot Chapter, No. 3, March 2nd, 1858. We find him this same year representing his Chapter in this Grand Chapter, and also elected Grand Scribe. In 1859 he was elected Deputy Grand High Priest, and was twice elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, serving this Grand Chapter in that capacity in the years 1860 and 1861. For nearly seven years he was an efficient Grand Secretary, and for thirteen years was chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

"On the 10th day of May, early in the morning, the weary wheels of life stood still, and the stricken one suffers no more. 'After life's fitful fever, he sleeps well.'

"On the 13th, in company with many illustrious members of the

Craft, I followed his remains to their last resting-place, to that beautiful knoll near the banks of the Delaware, in his native State, where we laid him among his kindred. As within that cemetery I looked upon the surrounding scenery, I said: 'Choice resting-place for one of earth's choicest noblemen. Ye need raise no massive column to perpetuate his name; he needs no monument of marble on which to inscribe his virtues; he is enshrined in the hearts of his Companions and Fratres.'

"As a manifestation of his faithful discharge of official duty, he prepared, by dictation, his report up to within a few days of his death, which I herewith submit, recommending that we recognize the service of a beloved daughter by some token of our appreciation of her filial devotion."

He appointed Comp. George B. Edwards, as Grand Secretary *pro tem*.

He granted three Dispensations to Chapters to receive and ballot on the petitions of brethren who were residents of Philadelphia, and at the same time members of Lodges in New Jersey, and he gives the following explanation of this action:—

"The existing peculiarities that distinguish the Royal Craft in Pennsylvania from those of New Jersey (passing the chair by dispensation from the Grand Lodge), render it impossible for any member of a Lodge in this State (except a P. M.) to become a member of a Chapter in Pennsylvania except by affiliation. Courteous and fraternal correspondence between the M. E. Grand High Priest and myself enabled me to grant the above privileges without infringement."

Comp. Jones decided that a blank vote should be counted in the aggregate, but it is neutral as to the question.

He regrets that the usual report on Foreign Correspondence will not appear this year in the proceedings. Out of respect to the lamented Corson, he left the post vacant. He also says:—

"I am convinced if the officers of our Subordinate Chapters gave more attention to the reports on Foreign Correspondence, they would be better qualified to discharge the duties of the important stations they are called to occupy. The information contained therein is, in my judgment, invaluable."

The Grand Officers visited most of the Chapters and found them in a fair degree of prosperity. The Deputy Grand High Priest in his report says:—

“ Upon a review of the visits made by me to the various Chapters of this State during the past three years, if I should be asked in what single particular there is a lack of efficiency, or wherein any single improvement is needed, and can be made, which will tend most decidedly to promote the efficiency of the Subordinate Chapters, I should unhesitatingly answer that in my judgment, maturely formed and strengthened by considerable observation, the one thing in relation to our Chapters which, above all others, needs the attention of Royal Arch Masons, by reason of present deficiency and the necessity of future amendment, is the too general and too frequent absence of the officers (not the Council officers so much as the Subordinate officers) of some of our Chapters, and their consequent failure to perform the duties which are incumbent upon them. This evil has, at times, seemed to me to be upon the increase, and, although I have, in a former report, referred to this matter, the importance of the subject, in my estimation, is such that, even at the risk of being charged with repetition, I have deemed it proper simply to advert to it again, in the hope that some reflection may be induced upon the part of the Royal Craft, and especially upon the part of those elected and appointed to office, which may result advantageously to some, at least, of the Chapters, even if it shall not produce any very general amendment.”

Our Proceedings for 1878 were received.

The Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales was recognized.

A motion to reduce the dues payable to Grand Chapter by the Subordinate Chapters, from fifty cents to thirty cents was lost.

M. E. Comp. James H. Durand, (Rahway,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Geo. B. Edwards, (Jersey City,) Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The eighty-third Annual Convocation was held at Albany, February 3rd, 1880.

M. E. Comp. David F. Day, G. H. P.

Representatives were present from 188 out of 190 Chapters.

The address of the Grand High Priest is a very able and interesting Masonic document, characterized by a knowledge of what is best for the Craft, and a practical familiarity with the means that should be adopted for its successful management.

On the condition of Royal Arch Masonry, he says:—

“The Eighty-third Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter finds the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this State not essentially changed since I last had the privilege of addressing you. By the returns made to the Grand Secretary, and which will soon be laid before you in detail, it appears that during the year now closed there have been nearly six hundred exaltations in the Chapters of this State. There have also been reported about one hundred affiliations, and nearly the same number of restorations to membership. But during the same period of time we have lost by death, dismissions and other causes, more than enough to counterbalance all our gain, and our aggregate membership is therefore somewhat reduced.

“The number of Royal Arch Masons exalted, affiliated and restored, though inconsiderable as compared with the increase of membership during ‘the years of plenty,’ is sufficient to prove that the interest taken in Capitular Masonry in many of the Chapters of this State is still active. I doubt not that with the return of ‘better times’ in business affairs there will be also a return of the days when candidates were plenty and treasuries overflowing. But I am quite well satisfied with the condition of Chapter affairs in this State, so far as the reception of candidates is concerned, even as it is. The strength of Masonry is not to be found in the multitude of votaries, but in their devotion to its principles and their obedience to its laws. I dread the hurry and hot haste in which candidates have sometimes sought the portals of Masonry. The oak, whose strength derides the tempest, and whose life is measured by centuries, is a tree of the slowest growth. More food than can be assimilated, no matter how wholesome the food may be, must prove pernicious. It is the lesson of all history that

‘Extended empire, like expanded gold,
Exchanges solid strength for brittle lustre.’

“To the large number of suspensions, this year reported, I shall advert hereafter. At present I need only to say that it is the crying evil of the time, not only in our jurisdiction, but in many others.”

"I need not say that I have great satisfaction in being able to report that, so far as my knowledge extends, during the last year the utmost harmony and fraternal feeling have prevailed throughout the jurisdiction. It is possible that somewhere in the State there may have been trials of Companions for un-Masonic conduct; but, if so, they have not come under my notice. No charges have been preferred to me against any Companion or Chapter. No case of grievance or appeal has been brought to my official cognizance. Such differences, as I know have arisen between Companions and between Chapters, have all been adjusted by the parties concerned, in that spirit of conciliation and fraternal feeling which should prevail even when Masons disagree."

He issued one Dispensation for a new Chapter.

In several Chapters, the meeting for the election of officers happened to fall on Christmas Eve or Christmas Night. In anticipation that these meetings might fail to be held, the Grand High Priest was applied to in advance, for Dispensations to hold the elections on some other evening. He felt obliged to refuse these applications, as he preferred to relieve the Chapters after the failure, if any, to hold the elections had happened. This course was undoubtedly correct, and the event fully justified his action, as in no one of the instances in which such applications were made, was there a failure to hold the election at the time appointed.

Among his numerous decisions, the following are worthy of note:—

"On the 6th day of April, 1879, M. E. Companion Breed further interrogated me, whether it was competent for the High Priest of a Chapter to discharge a committee of investigation, which he had himself appointed, and name another in its stead. I answered that the High Priest had such right, and that he might exercise it whenever he discovered good reason therefor."

"A Chapter, at its regular evening of meeting, was opened upon the Royal Arch degree, the constitutional number of Companions being present. The labors of the Chapter were then suspended, and a Lodge of Past Masters opened, and, in due time, closed. Upon an attempt to reorganize the Chapter it was found that a sufficient number of Companions was no longer present. The question asked was, whether the High Priest might thereupon have declared the Chapter closed, or whether the Chapter, on some occasion when a quorum

should happen to be present, ought to have been reorganized in order to be lawfully closed.

"I answered that, although the presence of a quorum of Royal Arch Masons is necessary for the purpose of opening a Chapter and transacting any business, yet, that a Chapter may be closed without a quorum: and that, in the case stated, the High Priest of the Chapter without impropriety might have ordered the minutes read, and then declared the Chapter closed, 'without form or ceremony.'"

With regard to this latter decision, we think that the difficulty might have been avoided by first transacting all the business that was to be done in the Royal Arch degree, and then closing the Chapter in due form, before proceeding to open the Lodge of Past Masters.

From the report of the Grand Secretary, we learn that there are 190 Chapters, making returns as follows:—

Exalted, 592; affiliated, 87; restored, 94. Total increase, 773. Dimitted, 359; suspended for non-payment of dues, 890; suspended for un-Masonic conduct, 3; expelled, 6; died, 202. Total increase, 1,450. Net decrease, 677. Total membership, 16,078.

M. E. Comp. John L. Lewis, P. G. H. P., was unable, through ill-health, to be present. On motion, the Grand Council was requested to express the sincere regret of the members of the Grand Chapter at the enforced absence of this distinguished Companion from their deliberations, and an earnest wish for the speedy recovery of his accustomed health and strength.

A revised Constitution was adopted, and a large amount of local business was transacted. The thanks of the Grand Chapter were voted to the Committee on Revision of the Constitution for the able manner in which they performed the duty assigned to them.

The new Constitution is published as an appendix to the

Proceedings, together with a revised code of procedure in Masonic trials. This code is very complete, and gives full details, and all necessary forms and directions for trials, appeals and restorations.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. Darius A. Ogden. It covers 84 pages, and is full of interest and information, combined in an agreeable manner.

In his notice of California, on the subject of the effect of Lodge suspension for non-payment of dues on membership in the Chapter, he says:—

“We cannot agree with the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania nor the Grand Chapter of California; nor do we believe such is Masonic law or good policy. In this, and in other jurisdictions, the law and the practice is different; and striking from the roll, or suspension for non-payment of dues, does not affect membership in the Chapter. In Canada the rule and law goes still further, and holds that suspension from the privileges of Masonry, or expulsion, does not destroy membership in the Chapter, without affirmative action by the Chapter. Our judgment is, that both Pennsylvania and Canada are wrong, and that the position of New York and others, holding the medium ground, is right.”

He has a good notice of the Proceedings of Canada for 1879, in which the following occurs:—

“The decision ‘that a suspension by a Craft Lodge, whether Grand or Subordinate, has no force in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, this Order alone having the right to pass judgment upon any of its members,’ is not, to the full extent stated, in accord with the rule or practice on this side of the line; nor does it appear to be good law or practice. In the States suspension for non-payment of dues in the Lodge does not affect members in the Chapter, but suspension for offenses otherwise does. In the case upon which the decision was made, it was a suspension, not for non-payment of dues, but from *the privileges of Masonry* by a Blue Lodge, and the decision that it had no force in a Chapter in which the suspended member had membership can hardly be maintained, we think. Every member of a Chapter must, of necessity, be a Master Mason, must have received three degrees in Masonry which the Chapter cannot confer, and which are indispensable to his becoming a member of a Chapter. Now suppose a Lodge, for good and sufficient reasons, withdraw the privilege it has conferred, has such action no force in the Chapter? Can one thus situated

remain a member of a Chapter? Has he not lost the very groundwork upon which his right to Chapter membership rests? A Master Mason may be stricken from the roll of his Lodge, or simply suspended, perhaps for non-payment of dues, and thus be put upon the non-affiliated list and not be disturbed in his Chapter membership, for he is still a Master Mason; but, one expelled from his Lodge and thus deprived of the rights and privileges thereof, or one suspended from the privileges of Masonry by the action of his Lodge, cannot be said be a Master Mason; nor could he apply to and be received into membership in a Chapter; nor could he remain unaffiliated in his membership, if a member, on the happening of either of the two events named, viz.: expulsion or suspension from the rights and privileges of membership in a Lodge."

On this subject, we may say that since the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, the Committee appointed to revise the Constitution have met, and, among other things, they decided to recommend to Grand Chapter that Article No. 16, be amended so as to read as follows:—

" When the Grand Lodge, or any other competent authority in the Craft, shall, for un-Masonic conduct, suspend or expel any Brother who is a Royal Arch Mason, such Companion shall be suspended or expelled from his Arch-Masonic functions for the period whilst such Craft suspension or expulsion continues in force."

M. E. Comp. William T. Woodruff (402 West 22nd Street, New York City,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox (Buffalo,) Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The thirty-first Annual Convocation was held at Durham, June 3rd, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Charles W. Alexander, G. H. P.

No new Chapters were organized.

Decisions were as follows:—

“*Question*.—What is the severest penalty that can be inflicted for non-payment of dues?

“*Answer*.—Dismemberment or exclusion from the rights, benefits and privileges of the Chapter.

“*Question*.—In what relation does the Companion then stand to the Chapter?

“*Answer*.—His relation is that of a non-affiliate.”

“I would call the attention of the Grand Chapter to Article II, of the Constitution, which requires that a Companion, to be eligible to to the office of High Priest of a Chapter, shall have first filled by election and installation the office of King or Scribe.

“While I think this a good rule, in order to prepare one for the responsible duties of High Priest, I also think that the same qualifications ought to be required of those who attain positions in the Council of the Grand Chapter. As the law now is, a Companion, in good standing in a Subordinate Chapter, can be elevated from the floor to the office of Grand High Priest, without ever having passed the Council of the Subordinate Chapter.”

Little progress has been made in the last few years, and Comp. Alexander thus asks for a remedy:—

“There must be a cause, and if so, there must be a remedy. Now what is the cause, and what the remedy to be applied.

“Is it apathy on our part, is it a want of zeal on the part of Royal Arch Masons in North Carolina, or is it because of the illiberal legislation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, coupled with the general depression of business with all classes and conditions of men throughout the country?

“If the former be the cause, the remedy is within our breasts. If the latter be the cause, we have the remedy, and we may be forced to apply it, though I should do it very reluctantly. It may become necessary as an act of self-preservation, but perhaps a returning sense of justice may set matters right.”

The Oxford Orphan Asylum is doing a good work; and the Grand High Priest is able to point with pride to the following record of the performance of their noble duties:—

“We gather from the Superintendent’s report that, for six years past, four hundred and forty-eight orphans have been admitted to the Asylum, and that of this number two hundred and eighteen had neither father nor mother. The average number sustained is one

hundred and thirty, and one-third of these have been the children of Masons. Out of the whole number received at the Asylum during this time, only six have died. The average cost of supporting an orphan is five dollars per month, or sixty dollars per annum. Religious services are held regularly at the Asylum by ministers of the various denominations in that vicinity. These facts show that the affairs of the Asylum are ably and economically managed, for which our beloved and efficient Superintendent, Brother Mills, deserves and receives the gratitude of every benevolent heart in North Carolina."

An additional article to the Constitution was proposed, providing that none but Past High Priests are eligible for election to the office of Grand High Priest. Action on it was postponed until the next Annual Convocation.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

"By Comp. H. H. Munson:

"WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter holds that an expressed belief in God as the Supreme Ruler of the Universe is a pre-requisite qualification in candidates for the degrees in Masonry, and whereas the Grand Orient of France has eliminated this fundamental principle from the Constitution, therefore,

"*Resolved*,—That this Grand Chapter hereby forbids its subordinates from holding any Masonic intercourse with the said Grand Orient of France, or any of its outgrowth, and that we will not yield our assent to any weakening of this ancient regulation, believing it to be the basis upon which our perpetuity as an Order rests.

"By Comp. H. H. Munson:

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Body that, in considering the question of a constitutional quorum for opening a Royal Arch Chapter, the Tyler, if a member of the Chapter, shall be included as one of the number.

"By Comp. James C. Munds:

"*Resolved*, That no Subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction shall be opened or called on, except for conferring degrees, unless there be nine members of said Chapter present."

The Grand Chapter accepted an invitation to participate in an excursion to Chapel Hill, the seat of the State University, to witness the commencement exercises, and also to partake of a barbecue given in their honor. The programme was "grandly executed."

The report of the Special Committee on the progress of Capitular Masonry in North Carolina was adopted, as follows:—

“Your Committee on the progress of Capitular Masonry in this State respectfully report:

“That a serious hindrance to that progress is to be found in the regulation of the General Grand Chapter, requiring ninety dollars as fees for the warrant for chartering and opening a Chapter.

“In evidence of this it appears that from the close of the war till 1871, when this body returned to the general confederation, six charters were issued, whereas, since that return, only three have been issued by this body.

“And we recommend that the General Grand Chapter be memorialized to amend its constitution, so as to allow the Grand Chapters to regulate, at their own discretion, the fees above-mentioned.

“Another hindrance may be found in the indebtedness, in arrearage to this body, on the part of many of its constituent Chapters, in regard to which we refer you for information and recommendations to the report of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

“In addition, however, we fear that the want of progress has been largely due to the lack among us of that fervency and zeal which should characterize all Royal Arch Masons. For the remedy we appeal to the officers of the several Chapters, confident that greater proficiency in a knowledge of the work, greater promptness to their stations, and a stricter enforcement of the regulations will be attended with greater profit and pleasure in our Order.”

The Grand Secretary was directed to revise the Installation services of the Grand Chapter. These ceremonies as revised appear in full in an appendix.

We regret that a severe illness has prevented Comp. Southgate from preparing the usual report on Correspondence. Our Proceedings for 1878 were received.

M. E. Comp. C. M. Van Orsdell (Wilmington), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. D. W. Bain (Raleigh), Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The tenth Annual Convocation was held at Halifax, June 2nd, 1879.

M. E. Comp. William A. Hessin, G. H. P.

Five Chapters represented out of eleven on the roll.

The Grand High Priest visited several of the Subordinate Chapters, and found them in good condition. We copy his opening remarks:—

“This Convocation completes a decade of existence of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia.

“Ten years ago a small body, composed of but three Chapters and 136 members, entered into a compact to organize and endeavor to maintain a Grand Chapter for this Province. Some of the prime movers in that undertaking have since been gathered to their fathers, one or two are residing in other jurisdictions, but several of us are still permitted to enjoy the pleasure of contemplating from our seats in Grand Chapter to-day the result of determined effort.

“What the result of that venture has been is presented before us in the statistics that we have to place before you, showing that where, at the inception of the movement, there were but three Chapters now there are eleven on the roll; where the membership then was but 136 now it has reached 437.

“That the inauguration of a grand governing body for Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction was a wise move, in my opinion the facts before us conclusively prove.”

A motion to increase the annual dues paid to Grand Chapter, was referred to the Committee of General Purposes, to be reported on at the next Annual Convocation.

In view of the limited funds at the disposal of the Grand Chapter, it was resolved not to incur any extra liability for a report on Foreign Correspondence. Our Proceedings for 1879 were received.

There are 11 Chapters under this Jurisdiction, 8 in Nova

Scotia, 1 in Newfoundland, 1 in Cape Breton Island, and 1 in Prince Edward Island. They return 33 exaltations; 3 affiliations; 15 dimissions; 13 suspensions; 2 deaths; 14 "missing;" and 437 members.

M. E. Comp. William Taylor (Halifax,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. James Gossip (Halifax,) Grand Secretary.

OHIO.

The sixty-third Annual Convocation was held at Akron, October 16th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. James W. Underhill, G. H. P.

Before the transaction of any business, a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened "in ample form." A Committee on Credentials was appointed, and reported, and there being a constitutional number of Chapters represented, the Grand Chapter was then opened. That's the way they do it there.

The opening paragraphs of the address of the Grand High Priest contain the following excellent remarks:—

"I greet you a second time in annual convocation. The past year has been noted for quiet and even prosperity in Capitular Masonry. There has been nothing to excite or to call for particular remark. I am aware that significant quiet is not always indicative of good health or desirable growth, but often indicates a lethargy that is not of kin to prosperity; and this I fear has been somewhat the state of Capitular Masonry in Ohio.

"Many Chapters, perhaps a large majority, have given evidences of usual activity and prosperity, while quite a number have but a sickly existence. The besetting Masonic sin is neglect on the part of members to attend the regular meetings of their Chapters. This is apparent in individual cases to an extent that calls for decisive measures on the part of the Grand Chapter, measures which shall call them to renew their Masonic faith and revive their drooping energies, or surrender their charters. The strength of our institution does not consist of numbers, but in moral worth and Masonic activity. The influence of a drone is worse than that of a profane; the one disgraces the Order, while the other has only a negative influence; one brings

the Order into contempt, while the other does not hinder while he does not aid the institution. Much could be done in the direction of correcting this evil by a proper system of official visitation. This would stimulate the dormant Chapters to greater activity, and keep the Grand Chapter advised of their condition. By this means many Chapters might be saved which now have only a sickly existence. Having in mind the depleted condition of our treasury, I have made no visits the past year unless my presence was needed to reconcile difficulties, and such occasions have been few and unimportant; but I fully foresee the necessity of official visitation and the important benefits to be derived therefrom. Frequently the Grand High Priest is invited by some flourishing, active Chapter to be present at the installation of officers, or at the exaltation of candidates; he complies, and has an interesting and joyous occasion; but a weak, indolent Chapter never extends an invitation, and consequently is never visited, and its actual condition remains unknown. As preliminary, I suggest that the secretaries, in making their annual returns, be required to report the number of regular meetings which were held by their respective Chapters at which a quorum was present."

He issued one Dispensation for a new Chapter.

We also copy his views on non-affiliated Masons:—

"Among others I have received enquiries with regard to the rights and privileges of non-affiliated R. A. Masons to participate in, or be heard in, the conduct of the Chapter and present charges. My reply has been that the non-affiliated have no such rights; they have no part or lot whatever in the management or control of the institution, are not entitled to Masonic charity or to receive Masonic burial. The only thing remaining to them is that they are subject to Masonic discipline, and may be suspended or expelled for un-Masonic conduct

"The idea that once a Mason always a Mason is well enough in theory, but it is time that the minds of non-affiliated Masons should be disabused, and that they should understand that he who does not support with his purse as well as give his influence for the welfare and perpetuity of the Royal Craft is worthy of no Masonic consideration, and should be dealt with accordingly. It seems to me that some active measures should be taken to place the drones of Masonry in their proper position, and make them understand that they are entitled to no Masonic consideration. My opinion is that a R. A. Mason who remains non-affiliated from choice for an undue length of time should be treated as a profane."

On this subject, the Standing Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported as follows, and their report was adopted:—

"Your committee have had under consideration so much of the

address of the M. E. Grand High Priest as refers to the right of a non-affiliated Mason to prefer charges against a member of a Chapter, and most heartily approve of and endorse his decision.

"While it is the duty of a Chapter to take cognizance of and correct un-Masonic conduct upon the part of any of its members, yet the right to prefer charges in the Chapter is like the right to visit a Chapter and receive Masonic charity, reserved to those Masons who, by active participation in the labors and contributions to the expenses of Masonry, give evidence of their interest in its advancement."

There are 139 Chapters, returning 541 exaltations, and 8,459 members.

An error in the table of Grand Chapters gives Comp. John McLaren as our Grand Secretary, instead of Comp. David McLellan, of Hamilton. Our Grand Secretary is styled Grand Scribe E.," and the "Grand Registrar" is an entirely different officer.

Comp. Thomas J. Melish has a very excellent report on Foreign Correspondence. He gives our Proceedings of 1879 a good notice, and thinks that our plan of having Grand Superintendents, is an admirable arrangement.

In his review of New Hampshire, he has some sensible remarks on the Past Master's degree. We are in accord with him on this subject, and would like to see this degree dropped from the Chapter altogether.

"In Ohio there is such an allusion to the esoteric features of the Mark Master's degree as would make it very improper for an Official Past Master who had never taken the Mark Master's degree to be present. We suppose the "work" in New Hampshire must be different, else the impropriety would be apparent to Comp. Wait at once. But as to the connection of the Past Master's degree with the Chapter we would say, that we sentimentally believe it has no proper connection with it at all, and if we could we would abolish it. Comp. Wait says: "The Chapter Past Master rests upon a fiction, assumed for the purpose of qualifying a candidate for the Royal Arch." This "fiction," the charge to the candidate says, rests on this, that anciently no one could be exalted to the Royal Arch degree unless he were a Past Master, hence in recasting the degrees into the Capitular

system it was thought best to retain it. "Fiction" all the way through! *Causa pro non causa!* The Royal Arch was originally an essential part of the Master Mason's degree, and has no necessary connection with an Official Past Master. But even if such had been an ancient pre-requisite there was no wisdom in getting up a fictitious installation to get over the imaginary difficulty. If the Council degrees should be incorporated with the Capitular, as seems to be eminent at present, it will afford an excellent opportunity to recast our Capitular degrees; drop out the Past Master altogether, and in its place insert the Council degrees. We commend the suggestion to our Chapters generally."

M. E. Comp. James B. Hovey (Marietta), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. James Nesbitt (Troy), Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

The nineteenth Annual Convocation was held at Portland, June 6th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. J. B. Congle, G. H. P.

He issued one Dispensation for a new Chapter. His official duties were few and unimportant. In his address, he says:—

"Companions, I believe that Capitular Masonry is in a healthy and prosperous condition in Oregon—peace and brotherly love prevailing throughout our jurisdiction. I have not heard of any case of grievance in any of our Chapters during the past Masonic year. This is certainly cause for congratulation, and speaks well for our beloved Order, and may we ever live thus in peace, love and unity, and the blessing of Heaven will surely abide with us.

"I have no recommendations to make to you at this Convocation, except to caution you against enacting too many new laws—we have had too much law now—let the Companions have a rest."

A valuable history of Royal Arch Masonry in Oregon was presented by Comp. J. R. Bayley, P. G. H. P., and ordered to be printed with the Proceedings.

There are 16 Chapters, including two under Dispensation;

fourteen were represented in Grand Chapter. They return 51 exaltations, and 531 members.

On the recommendation of the Grand Lecturer, his salary was discontinued. In future, he is bound to visit only those Chapters who may invite his services, and are willing to pay the necessary expenses.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. T. McF. Patton, and in our opinion, it is decidedly the best of the year. We regret that the late date of the receipt of these Proceedings prevent us from noticing this admirable report as fully as we would wish.

Before proceeding to review each separate jurisdiction, he takes up and discusses in a very able manner the following questions as being of great interest to the Craft:—

“Reports on Foreign Correspondence. Are they worth what they cost?” He thinks they are, and more too.

“Is suspension for non-payment of dues a *bona fide* suspension?” He thinks it is.

“Union of Council and Chapter Degrees.” He thinks the action already taken by a number of Grand Chapters, in uniting these degrees, will be followed by others and will ultimately be ratified and confirmed by the General Grand Chapter.

“Physical qualifications.” Candidates should be able to conform literally to all the requirements of the degrees.

“Resignations not allowed—Dimits free.” He thinks that an officer should have the same right to withdraw as an ordinary member.

“High Priest—Who eligible?” Merit only should be the law of promotion. Previous service in any other office should not be essential.

“What constitutes Past Rank?” He thinks that election and installation give the rank, and not the term of service.

“Tyler vs. Tiler.” He says that “Tyler” is correct, both historically, orthographically and otherwise.

“Committees on Grievance.” These might be abolished, as standing committees, as they have in general nothing to do, and could be specially appointed when required.

Canada for 1878 receives a good notice, in which he says:—

“The M.E. Grand Z., as well as the Executive Committee, each paid Companion Robertson a handsome compliment, for the able manner in which he handles the correspondence department. We are glad to know that he is so fully appreciated at home. We always found much in the Canada reports worthy of commendation, and while many of their regulations are different from ours, yet in the main, when discussing questions affecting the Craft at large, we generally find in Companion Robertson a valuable ally.

“He says that the Grand Chapter of Nevada, although organized in 1873, has never sent them any notice of their organization, nor any of their proceedings. We would recommend that you try our plan—*publish their obituary notice!* We tried that and succeeded beyond our expectations, and found the liveliest corpse we ever examined.

“This jurisdiction has imbibed the principle from some unknown source, and engrafted it among their regulations, of suspending from *membership* for non-payment of dues. Perhaps they acquired it from Maine, where Companion Drummond says it has prevailed for near a hundred years. Elsewhere we have presented this matter and will not refer to it here. The principle is wrong. Suspension should be suspension *in fact*, the world over.”

M. E. Comp. J. B. Congle (Portland), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. R. P. Earhart (Salem), Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA.

A Quarterly Meeting was held at Philadelphia, on the 6th February, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Wm. C. Hamilton, G. H. P.

A communication was received from a Chapter, in which they asked for a remission of dues, and for permission to solicit contributions from sister Chapters of that jurisdiction, for the purpose of relieving them of indebtedness, incurred at the formation of the Chapter, they having borrowed money for that purpose, and for rent since accrued.

Thereon the Committee on Finance submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:—

“Resolved, That the dues of Chapter No.—, for the year 1878 be remitted.

“Resolved, That so much of their request as relates to permission to solicit contributions from sister Chapters, in aid of their Treasury, be not granted by the Grand Chapter.

“Resolved, That hereafter no new Chapter shall be constituted until the petitioners therefor shall have fully satisfied the Officers of the Grand Chapter, that they have incurred no debts for clothing, paraphernalia, etc., etc., which they have not sufficient funds of their own to pay, thus enabling the Chapter to start free of debt.”

We fully agree with these resolutions. Chapters should not be started unless free from debt, and with a reasonable prospect of being able to keep so. Otherwise there is a strong temptation to increase the membership too rapidly, for the sake of procuring funds.

In reference to the *status* of Companions who have been suspended by their Lodges for non-payment of dues, the following resolutions were adopted:—

“WHEREAS, Several of the Grand Chapters of the United States

have declared that a Companion suspended by his Lodge of Master Masons for non-payment of dues, is not suspended in his Chapter, but continues a member in good standing of the same, with all the rights and privileges, and

"WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter desires emphatically to declare the foregoing to be a violation of Masonic law and usage and gives countenance to suspended Masons;

"Therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That the Chapters subordinate to the jurisdiction of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, be directed to require all visitors for examination from other jurisdictions, prior to admission, a declaration in the following words: I do not stand suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, neither has my name been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues in my Lodge of Master Masons, or my Chapter of Royal Arch Masons."

Each Grand Chapter has, of course, the right to say whom they will admit either as visitors or members; and they may prescribe such conditions as to admission to their Chapters as they may deem advisable. They may exclude all visitors from any particular jurisdiction, but they could not feel aggrieved if that particular jurisdiction should exclude them in return.

The adoption of the above resolution invites retaliation. There is no attempt at argument, nor any effort to justify its passage. It is not a kindly or fraternal remonstrance, such as might have been expected between Brethren, but it amounts almost to an open declaration of war. Before proceeding to such an extremity, we think that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania might have communicated with the other Grand Chapters against whom this resolution is directed.

They have assumed that these other Grand Chapters have been guilty of a violation of Masonic law. This we deny. The action complained of is one entirely of local regulation. The payment of dues, as a condition of Lodge membership, is required in some Lodges, and in others it is not required. Where dues are required, the regulations governing their payment or non-payment vary according to the local law.

There are no two jurisdictions in which these regulations are the same. Each Grand Lodge has its own law on this subject, and surely each Grand Chapter has the right to regulate its own membership.

Hitherto it has been an acknowledged maxim of Masonic international law, that the standing of a Mason at home governs his standing abroad. The same rule applies to Royal Arch Masons; if they are in good standing according to the laws of their own Grand Chapter, they are entitled to recognition as Royal Arch Masons wherever they go.

This action of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania can only be looked upon as a breach of that Masonic comity which should always exist between the grand bodies of different jurisdictions. We hope that they will reconsider this action, and rescind a resolution which we can only characterize as un-fraternal.

The Committee on Work submitted the following report:—

“COMPANIONS: The Committee on Work, having had referred to them by the M. E. Grand High Priest the question as to the style and title of the subordinate Chapters and the degree of the Royal Arch, would report that at a meeting held this day, after a full discussion, decided that the title of a subordinate Chapter to be a *Chapter of Royal Arch Masons*, and that the degree conferred therein should be called the degree of a *Royal Arch Mason*.”

After considerable discussion, the further consideration of the subject was postponed until the next quarterly meeting.

On August 7th, 1879, it was moved to adopt the report, when the Grand High Priest decided that he could not entertain the motion, as by the Constitution the degree is the “Royal Arch Degree.” Companions on their exaltation become “Royal Arch Masons,” and Subordinate Chapters are “Chapters of Royal Arch Masons,” the word “Holy” not to be used in either case.

There are 103 Chapters, with 10,171 members; and three Mark Lodges, with 1,963 members.

The Grand Treasurer was directed to purchase \$1,000 of Masonic Temple redemption loan for account of the Grand Chapter, making in all \$20,000 invested in the bonds of this loan.

The Annual Convocation was held at Philadelphia, December 27th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Wm. C. Hamilton, Grand High Priest, delivered an excellent address. He visited a number of the Chapters, and also held a number of meetings of the officers of the Chapters for the purpose of rehearsal, which were well attended, and the results were most gratifying. We copy the following good advice:—

“Truth, whether it be agreeable or unpalatable, must be spoken; therefore we state, with a sense of deprecation, that Royal Arch Masonry, within the circle of visitations, is not in that growing and flourishing condition which would aid so materially in building and strengthening our Fraternity. It is true there is a certain kind of *‘peace and harmony reigning,’* but it is of a negative character, and is the result of apathy and neglect—apathy upon the part of the officers of the Chapters, and neglect upon the part of the members in attending the meetings thereof. These are the conditions that prevail generally in that portion of the jurisdiction included in my visitations, although there are many honorable exceptions, to whom we extend the meed of praise. It is important to us, as Royal Arch Masons, to arouse ourselves more keenly to the necessity of adopting measures whereby this evil may be overcome. Therefore I desire your attention while I endeavor to demonstrate the means whereby this condition of our Fraternity may be averted in the future, and activity and prosperity again be restored. It attempting this I do not desire to presume upon any ability I may possess, but I regard it as a duty, so long as I preside as your Grand High Priest, to call the attention of the Companions to the satisfactory result and the innumerable advantages to be achieved by a faithful and conscientious performance of the duties of their several stations:

“The officers and members of a Chapter should be united in one brotherhood, characterized by purity and singleness of purpose, which would exert giant power in preserving its integrity. This

spirit of unity should be encouraged and applauded wherever we observe its manifestation, in order that our success may have lasting foundation.

"The prospective High Priest of a Chapter is, by a wise custom of our Fraternity, placed on probation, as it were, by his election as Scribe thereof; this, and his subsequent year as King, should be spent in a diligent and conscientious preparation for the discharge of the high and important duties that will devolve upon him should he attain to the High Priesthood.

"An intelligent comprehension of the ritual is of the utmost importance; it is, in my estimation, the basis of a Masonic education, and from this knowledge he will be able to evolve those beautiful symbolic lessons that have always been the distinguishing feature of our solemn rites and observances.

"He should carefully study the Constitution of the Grand Chapter and the By-laws of his own Chapter; the landmarks, usages and customs of Masonry should be written indelibly in his mind, and when he attains to the High Priesthood his demeanor while presiding officer should be mild, dignified and courteous; these qualifications, combined with moderation, in the exercise of the prerogatives of his station, will at once command the esteem and veneration of his Companions.

"There is an important responsibility attached to the several positions occupied by the subordinate officers of a Chapter. These places should never be assumed by a Companion unless he is inspired with zeal, energy and a respectful submission to the authority for the time being. When accepted he should show his gratitude for the preferment by a prompt attendance upon all the meetings of the Chapter, and also by a conscientious preparation of the part designed to be performed by him.

"Thus acting in harmony, High Priest and officers, you will be able to bestow upon your Chapter that intellectual repast so necessary to its vitality. You will exhibit to the Companions that your heart is in the work before you, and that you are laboring with fervent interest for the propagation of the grand truths and principles embodied in the institution of Masonry.

"Ours has been termed an honorable society, therefore it is our sacred duty to endeavor most strenuously to preserve unsullied our ancient prestige, and zealously guard against any dereliction in the performance of our duties by which tarnish may gather on the fair lustre of our honor.

"Yet, my Companions, we may indirectly, and in the perfect faith of unconsciousness, commit many errors that will detract from the elevated standing of our Fraternity; therefore we should be watchful, diligent and industrious, regarding our associates in the spirit of brotherly affection, laboring to repress those noxious passions, malice, envy and censoriousness, before they take root in the heart, to blossom in rank luxuriance, and overshadow our brave resolutions.

"These vices are pernicious to all that is true and good, and are capable of shattering the foundation of any society, however firm its structure."

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. Charles E. Meyer, and notices Canada for 1879.

M. E. Comp. Wm. C. Hamilton (Philadelphia), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. John Thomson (Philadelphia), Grand Sec'y.

QUEBEC.

The third Annual Convocation was held at Montreal, September 23rd, 1879.

M. E. Comp. J. H. Graham, Grand Z.

There are 9 Subordinate Chapters on the roll; 8 were represented in Grand Chapter; 12 exaltations are reported, and 364 members.

The address of the Grand Z. is characterized by his usual eloquence and skill. On the state of the Craft at home, he says:—

“The year just closed has been one of concord and fraternal harmony, and the overseers and workmen have most commendably manifested their desire to lay the foundations of Capitular Masonry within our jurisdiction, wisely and well. No case of dissonance has been submitted to me for adjudication; and to the extent of my observation, it appears that the materials received for the erection of our superstructure, if not so great in quantity, have been of superior quality, and well fitted for the acceptance and approval of the chief overseers, and for the upbuilding and beautifying of our symbolic temple. It may moreover be justly inferred that the increasing zeal and intelligence so happily being displayed in Craft Masonry, and the favorable dawns of greater material prosperity, everywhere observable within our borders, will cause many of the more expert and able of Master Masons to seek exaltation to the supreme degree of the Royal Arch, and thus reach the perfect consummation of the labors and rewards of ancient Craft Masonry.”

He reports their recognition by six additional Grand Chap-

ters, and the Grand Mark Lodge of England. His remarks on the following subjects are well worthy of attention:—

“PERMANENT OFFICES.

“Until the Craft in this Province may be able to realize the cherished project of possessing a ‘Freemason’s Hall’ in this metropolitan city of the Dominion, it appears to me very desirable that the Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge, and it may be, other Grand Bodies, should, if practicable, have in this city a common, centrally located office of comfortable size, properly fitted up, and having safes and vaults for the due preservation of their records, papers, &c., and that if possible, the same efficient and trustworthy officer might act as Grand Scribe, Grand Secretary, Foreign Correspondent, &c., of the several Grand Bodies, and be so enabled by fairly remunerative salary, as that his whole time would be devoted to attendance at his office, and to the performance of these important duties. This is admirably accomplished in some jurisdictions, and I am of the opinion that the matter is well worth the serious consideration of the Craft throughout the Province.

“MARKS.

“There is reason to suppose that there are some, and perhaps not a few, mark Master Masons who have been exceedingly remiss by not selecting and having recorded their appropriate and distinguishing marks pertaining to this beautiful and impressive degree, and I therefore urge upon every craftsman of this grade of our Order, that if he has hitherto neglected this duty, he will, at an early day, remedy this grave oversight.

“I am moreover of the opinion that the officers of the Subordinate Chapters should make it *imperative* that all Mark Masters shall have selected and presented their marks to the Scribe E. for registration, prior to their exaltation, and that all such marks should, along with the annual and semi-annual returns, be transmitted to the Grand Scribe E. for registration in the records of Grand Chapter.

“The possession of these distinguishing marks by all the members of this rank, and their record in the books of the Subordinate Chapters, and of the Grand Chapter, are matters not only of great present importance, but they will become of more and more general interest as years pass by; hence I sincerely trust that this defect will be immediately remedied, and that the Book of Marks of this Grand Chapter will, from the beginning of its history, be a complete and perfect record of the marks of every Mark Master Mason made within its jurisdiction and under its authority.

“INTERNATIONAL CRAFT-MEDIATION.

“I regret to have to report that circumstances have not, as yet, enabled me to carry out your wishes as embodied in the resolution passed by Grand Chapter, requesting and empowering me personally and otherwise, to aid in securing a satisfactory and final adjustment of the jurisdictional relations between the Craft Grand Bodies in the mother country and in this Province, and especially for the speedy removal of the present unhappy misunderstanding with the Craft in

North Britain. Private correspondence, however, clearly discloses the fact that there are those among the most eminent of the Craft there, who are equally grieved as ourselves, that aught inharmonious should have arisen, and they are earnestly desirous that international harmony should be speedily restored, as no doubt it will be ere long if all interested seek the desired object in the right spirit.

"It seems to be the opinion of some 'at home,' and amongst ourselves, that personal conference between the leaders of the Craft on both sides, is the most likely to accomplish the desired end, and your being so fully aware of my deep sorrow anent the present international differences, and my great anxiety for their early removal, constitute in your estimation, at least, my chief qualification as a 'peace commissioner' in what appears to be an impending crisis wholly unnecessary and greatly to be deplored. You may therefore rely upon it that if any personal or official efforts on my part, will tend to restore harmony with the mother Grand Bodies on a just and enduring basis, they will be cheerfully made, and I have too firm faith in the intelligence and fraternal prudence and good-will of these Brethren now in dissent here, and in the wisdom and ability of the fathers and rulers of the Craft in the mother land to have any *present* doubts as to the ultimate result. I trust, therefore, at no distant day to be able to communicate to Grand Chapter the consummation so devoutly desired."

"MASONIC FUNERALS.

"From time immemorial, it has been a custom among the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, at the request of a Brother, to accompany his corpse to the place of interment, and there deposit his remains with the usual formalities; and although on this continent the Holy Royal Arch, for its better governance, is under the authority of a separate Grand Body, yet it remains, as ever, an indivisible part, and is the copestone of ancient Craft Freemasonry, and hence has no need of a separate form of burial service for its deceased members, as our Companions clothed in their distinctive regalia, are wholly identified with the other members of our ancient fraternity in the performance of the sad funeral rites. But as more especially in our day, many commendable benefit and other like societies have sprung into existence, and to one or more of which, members of our Order may properly belong, and as some of these excellent bodies have adopted, or in part borrowed from the Craft, a form of burial service, it becomes therefore highly desirable, that the immemorial principles and practice of our Order, relating to burial, should be fully understood and prudently carried out. The rulers of the Craft should therefore always bear in mind that it is only at the request of a Brother that his remains are to be honored with Masonic burial, the formalities of which at the grave take place immediately after the services of the church to which the deceased may have belonged or was in some way connected, and the Masonic service close the last mournful rites.

"The Craft cannot, therefore, take part in or unite with any other body or bodies in having a double or triple funeral service at the grave. No member of our fraternity should make a request to be buried by any society if he desires Masonic rites of sepulture, but if he has done so, and it is arranged that the burial services of any other body, except those of the church, are to be performed, the Craft cannot then rightly perform any burial service. This practice does not arise from

any assumed superiority, or from any want of good-will to such societies on the part of our fraternity, but because it is required by immemorial custom, and is adhered to, in order to have everything on such sad occasions 'done decently and in order,' and to promote peace, harmony and concord."

Owing to the withdrawal from active work of Comp. Mc-Minn, there is no extended Report on Correspondence. In their report on this subject, the committee notice ourselves as follows:—

"The proceedings of our Mother Grand Chapter of Canada held on the 18th day of August of this year have been received, and we are pleased to notice among the Companions who were present many old and respected friends of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. Our Representative, M. E. Companion Daniel Spry, of Toronto, Ont., was elected Grand Z., and our friend, R. E. Companion Henry Robertson, was re-elected Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in which position we hope he will continue to defend the landmarks of the Royal Craft, from a Canadian standpoint, with his usual ability."

The committee on the address of the Grand Z. conclude their report with this paragraph:—

"The Committee hope the Grand Z. will continue to give his special attention to the establishment of fraternal relation between the Craft in this Province and the Grand Bodies in the mother country, and they trust in this and in all matters relating to Capitular Masonry and the interest of this Grand Chapter, he will continue to bestow his valuable services, which are of so great importance to the Craft in this Province."

A new Constitution was adopted. Dual membership is not permitted. On "Objections," there is the following clause:—

"SEC. 11. Should objection be made to the advancement of a candidate, at any stage of advancement, it shall be the duty of the First Principal to cause enquiry to be made as to the justice of such objection, by a committee of the members of the Chapter appointed by him for that purpose, who shall submit a report at the next Convocation, when the Chapter shall, by vote of the members present, sustain or remove such objection. The candidate has the right to appeal to Grand Chapter against any adverse decision of the Chapter."

M. E. Comp. J. H. Graham (Richmond,) Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. Angus Grant (Montreal,) Grand Scribe E.

RHODE ISLAND.

The eighty-first Annual Convocation was held at Providence, March 11th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. William N. Ackley, G. H. P.

The annual address is very interesting, and evinces an earnest devotion to the interests of the Royal Craft. Comp. Ackley visited a number of the Chapters, and found everywhere a noble Masonic spirit prevailing. Works of charity and benevolence do not languish among the members of the Order. No questions of a perplexing nature came up for action.

Among the Dispensations issued, we notice the following:

“One to Scituate Chapter, No. 8, to do business and vote for degrees in a Mark Master's Lodge, provided that all present be Royal Arch Masons, and that due and timely notice be given to every member of the name of the applicant and the time when the election should be held. This action was deemed advisable in view of the fact that the active members of this Chapter are somewhat scattered and the consequent difficulty of securing a sufficient attendance at the stated meetings to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.”

On the exemplification of the work, Comp. Ackley says:—

“In accordance with the desire informally expressed at the last Annual Convocation, it was my intention to call a Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter in order to witness an exemplification of the work. Circumstances, however, at length rendered it unadvisable to carry out the plan and it was abandoned. There seems to be very general uniformity of work in the jurisdiction, and constant practice on the part of the several Chapters, whether furnished with material or not, will tend to preserve that similarity of usage and ritual so de-

sirable. We cannot guard too scrupulously the old traditional principles and landmarks, and a true spirit should lead the officers of each Chapter to seek the greatest possible knowledge and skill, though not at once liable to be called to instruct candidates in the sacred mysteries of our Order."

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, making all Past High Priests members of Grand Chapter, and also all Past High Priests who shall hereafter become such, having held the office of High Priest for two years consecutively. The requirement of two years' service as High Priest is something new. We imagine that it will certainly result in the "survival of the fittest," and add materially to the strength and efficiency of the Grand Chapter.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comps. George H. Burnham, and George M. Carpenter, Jr., and contains a good notice of Canada for 1878.

M. E. Comp. Wm. N. Ackley (Warren,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Wm. R. Greene (Providence,) Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

The fifty-first Annual Convocation was held at Nashville, November 12th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Benjamin F. Haller, G. H. P.

His address opens as follows:—

"Since we last met, our jurisdiction has again been visited by that fearful pestilence which last year desolated so many happy homes, and caused our Order to mourn for the loss of so many of our Companions. Again, poor Memphis has been made desolate by an epi-

demic of yellow fever, and thousands of her citizens mourn for the loved ones who repose in the silent chambers appointed for the living. Whilst our deepest sympathies go forth to those who have been bereaved, we should humbly thank the Most High God that He has dealt gently with our loved Order. Last year our loss from yellow fever was twenty-one; this year one, Companion W. W. Lockhard, a member of Memphis Chapter, No. 95.

"I am glad to be able to report to the Grand Chapter that harmony prevails in our jurisdiction, and notwithstanding the epidemic which has affected the entire State, more or less, a fair degree of prosperity has prevailed."

He granted one Dispensation for a new Chapter. Owing to the unfortunate appearance of yellow fever in Memphis, it became necessary for a great portion of the State to establish strict quarantine against her citizens, and he was, therefore, unable to visit as many Chapters as he had intended.

He decided that a Chapter could make a By-law, excluding non-affiliated Royal Arch Masons from visitation.

He recommends the publication of a Report on Correspondence, to be prepared by the Grand Secretary, as it would afford much information and pleasure to the reading Mason.

With regard to the exemplification of work in the presence of the Grand Chapter, the Committee on Jurisprudence were of opinion that a more satisfactory plan would be to authorize the G. H. P., if he think it expedient, to order such exemplification by the officers of some well-skilled Subordinate Chapter.

The following report was adopted:--

"In the matter of the Query of Companion John A. Pitts, referred to this committee, we beg leave to report that no clear ruling has been made upon this question by this Grand Chapter. The decision upon the subject by the W. M. Grand Lodge of Tennessee is to the effect that *per capita* tax is collectable from each of the Subordinate Bodies to which the members belong. Unless, therefore, the Grand Chapter

shall adopt other regulations, the laws of the Grand Lodge would be the guide in this matter.

“*Query*.—Is a Subordinate Chapter liable to the Grand Chapter for *per capita* tax on its members who are also members of another Chapter working under dispensation? If so, is the Chapter under dispensation also liable for the *per capita* tax on the same members, *i. e.*, is the Grand Chapter in such cases entitled to double tax on members who belong to a chartered Chapter and also to Chapters under dispensation?”

The Committee on Ways and Means recommended that the Grand Chapter take no action, at present, in reference to the compilation of a Report on Correspondence, because of their embarrassed financial condition. They believe that the next Annual Convocation will see them out of debt.

M. E. Comp. Joe. H. Bullock (Paris,) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. John Frizzell (Nashville,) Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

The sixty-second Annual Convocation was held at Burlington, June 13th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Edward S. Dana, G. H. P.

There are 25 Chapters. All were represented except 2.

The Grand High Priest opens his address as follows:—

“The devout worshippers of Islam traverse the burning sands of the desert with patient fortitude and weary steps to render their devotions at the shrine of Mecca, and to chant with dolorous voice, ‘There is no god but God, and Mohammed is his prophet.’

“The Christian pilgrim from far distant lands has sought with keen solicitude and prayerful earnestness, amid the ruin and desolation of Jerusalem, for the once almost fabulous glories of the Temple, and has searched out the principal scenes glorified by the presence of our Saviour, and consecrated himself anew at the sepulchre from which the Galilean women, on the first day of the week, found the

stone rolled away, and the angel who said unto them, 'He is risen, he is not here; behold the place where they laid Him.'

"The Companions of the Royal Arch, as the hour draws nigh for our Annual Convocation, in like manner turn their thoughts towards our inner sanctuary, and hasten to join us in offering up our adorations to the GREAT I AM, whose ineffable name is inscribed on imperishable tablets which the mutations of time cannot efface or destroy.

"The time seems brief since our last Convocation, as we changed our time of meeting from September to June, and but eight months have elapsed since we separated.

"Our Subordinate Chapters during that time have been generally prosperous, and harmony and good-will have prevailed."

He approves the action of a special committee in purchasing from Comp. John B. Hollenbeck twenty-one volumes of Moore's "Freemason," at a cost of fifty dollars. Comp. Hollenbeck, their venerable Past Grand Secretary, was prevented from attending the meeting by a serious accident.

Comp. Dana has served as Grand High Priest for four years, and asked permission to retire. The following well-earned tribute of respect was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Vermont desire to express and hereby tender to our retiring M. E. Grand High Priest, Edward S. Dana, the sincere thanks of its members for the uniform courtesy and ability with which he has presided over its deliberations for many years, and the energy and faithfulness which have characterized his administration, and to assure him of their high appreciation of his character and services as a Mason and a man."

One Chapter was allowed to meet alternately in two places.

The Report on Correspondence is again by Comp. Edward S. Dana, and is written in his usually able and entertaining manner. Canada for 1878 receives a good notice.

M. E. Comp. Alfred A. Hall (St. Albans) Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. W. H. S. Whitcomb (Burlington) Grand Secretary.

The sixty-third Annual Convocation was held at Burlington, June 11th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Alfred A. Hall, G. H. P.

Comp. Hall arranged a system of visitation, assigning a certain district to each of the four principal officers. These visits proved pleasant and profitable.

We make the following extracts from his valuable address:—

“The Grand Secretary is making an effort to collect the Charters and Records of old Mark Lodges for the archives of the Grand Chapter. They are valuable only as relics, and belonging to the history of Capitular Masonry in this State. Assistance has been rendered by some of the older Masons who held the custody of the property, and suitable recognition has been made. I trust all will feel an interest in this collection, and render the Grand Secretary such aid as may be in their power.” * * *

“The Constitution of the General Grand Chapter provides that Past High Priests may be members of Grand Chapters so long as they remain within the jurisdiction. As our membership is comparatively small and constantly changing, it has seemed to me that a greater interest would be manifested, and our Annual Convocations better attended, by so amending our General Regulations as to include Past High Priests and Past Grand Treasurers. The subject is worthy the consideration of a Committee.” * * *

“Perhaps the most important subject to demand the attention of the General Grand Chapter will be the proposition to “tack on” to the Subordinate Chapters the Council degrees.

“Vermont Masons have repeatedly pronounced against such an unjustifiable innovation, and unless otherwise instructed, will, undoubtedly, go to Detroit prepared to oppose it by all honorable means.” *

“The teachings, symbols and allegories of our work are beautiful. We claim for it perfection, age, &c., and while we add nothing to and take nothing from that, we are recreant to our trust if we are content to wear threadbare the words of our ritual, and leave the general standing of Masonry where we found it. We have a noble calling; but *noblesse oblige*. Our obligations to God and our fellow-men re-

quire that all our energies be devoted to heightening the standard of Masonry."

The question of admitting to permanent membership all Past High Priests and Past Grand Treasurers was referred to a special committee, to report at the next Annual Convocation.

The Grand High Priest decided that an actual Past Master could not be taken into the Chapter, omitting the Past Master's degree, and waiving the payment of the fee for that degree.

There were no grievances.

Comp. Edward S. Dana reports on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1879.

M. E. Comp. Alfred A. Hall (St. Albans), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Wm. H. S. Whitcomb (Burlington), Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

The seventy-second Annual Convocation was held at Richmond, December 11th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. Alfred S. Lee, G. H. P.

His official duties during the past year were very light. He decided that a Subordinate Chapter in that jurisdiction had no right to confer the Council degrees on a Companion who is a member of a Chapter in another jurisdiction.

The condition of the Craft is more favorable than heretofore, and gives evidence of returning prosperity.

Among the representatives appointed by the Grand High Priest, we are glad to welcome R. F. Comp. William Brydon, as the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Virginia to the Grand Chapter of Canada. We reciprocate the expression that "these fraternal courtesies will serve to unite more closely the ties which already bind us to our sister Grand Chapters."

On consultation with the Grand Secretary, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, they came to the conclusion that it was judicious to omit the usual report this year.

Comp. James Evans resigned his position of Grand Lecturer, which he had held for 22 years.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved, That when any two Chapters having concurrent jurisdiction deem it to their interest and to the interest of Royal Arch Masonry to consolidate and become one Chapter, that they be permitted to do so upon the consent of the Grand High Priest, and to retain the charter, records, &c., of the retiring Chapter and place them in the archives of the Chapter remaining in existence, and also to transfer their property, unpaid dues of membership, &c., to the same, on such terms and conditions as the two Chapters may agree upon.

Resolved, That upon the formal application of the Chapter remaining in existence for a new election of officers following the consolidation, the Grand High Priest be authorized to issue his Dispensation authorizing the same, and said elected officers shall hold their respective offices until the next regular election, as provided by the By-laws of the Chapter, and the said officers may be eligible to re-election.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter of Virginia be, and he is, hereby authorized to open an account with some bank in the name of the Trustees of the Grand Chapter, and the funds so deposited shall be subject to the check of the Grand Treasurer (whether elected or appointed) and said check to be countersigned by one of said Trustees.

“Resolved,—That the law defining the powers and duties of District Deputy Grand Lecturers be amended by striking out the words, ‘The duties of District Deputy Grand Lecturers,’ (p. 155, pro. 1878,) and inserting in lieu thereof, ‘The District Deputy Grand Lecturers shall be regular Past or Present High Priests, and their duties.’”

A paragraph in the “Methodical Digest” was amended so as to read as follows:—

“6. No Chapter shall confer any of the Degrees of a Royal Arch Chapter on any Mason who resides more contiguous to another Chapter; but any Chapter under this jurisdiction may confer any of the Degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Select Master, Royal Master, Most Excellent Master, or Royal Arch, upon any Mason deemed worthy to receive them, even though he be a resident of another State or Territory in which there is a Grand Chapter, upon the written consent of the Chapter where he may reside; in each instance charging the fees usually required for such Degrees.”

There are 33 Chapters, with 1,639 members.

M. E. Comp. Samuel M. Bowman (Harrisonburg), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. William B. Isaacs, Jr. (Richmond), Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

The thirtieth Annual Convocation was held at Milwaukee, February 17th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Oliver Libbey, G. H. P.

On “Royal and Select Masters,” he says:—

“Your Standing Committee on the degree of Royal and Select Master, appointed at the last Grand Convocation, issued to the several Chapters, on the 10th of May last, a supplementary circular of instruction relative to the manner of conferring those degrees, and the rules governing their dissemination. This was in addition to those previously issued by the same Committee, and gave more minute directions as to the proper regulations to be observed. A copy of these instructions will be presented in the report to be laid before you by the Committee; and should they meet your approval, I would recommend that these, together with the several former circulars of the Committee already approved by you, be arranged in proper form

for reference, and printed with the Proceedings of the present Convocation.

“The wisdom of your action in committing the care of these degrees to a Committee specially selected for that purpose, is evident in the decrease in the number of applications for information upon this subject. Although for the most part unused to the ceremonies of these degrees, the officers of the Chapters have been able, by the assistance of the instructions of the Grand Lecturer and the Committee, to successfully prosecute their labors on these degrees, and the practical result is seen in the marked increase in the Council membership, as shown in the annual returns.”

The only decisions which were deemed of sufficient importance to be noticed, were the following:—

“1. A Chapter can legally elect its officers only at the time specified in its By-laws, which must, by the provisions of the Constitution, be in the month of December. An election of officers held at a Convocation preceding that fixed by the By-laws for that purpose, is void, unless the officers then balloted for have already been installed.

“2. By our present Constitution, any Companion, being a member of the Chapter, who is otherwise competent to fill the office of High Priest, may be elected and installed as such, whether he has previously been a member of the Grand Council or not.”

Their financial condition is improving. Their membership is increasing slowly, harmony prevails and a moderate degree of prosperity has attended their efforts to extend the knowledge of those sublime truths which our Ritual inculcates.

A series of Rules of Order were adopted for the future government of the Grand Chapters.

The Grand Lecturer visited a large number of Chapters, and gives an extensive report, which concludes as follows:—

“In my visitations during the year I have found, as a rule, less interest in the Chapters and fewer well skilled officers than in any other Masonic bodies. In too many cases it has been made only a stepping-stone to the Commandery, and when that goal was reached the interest in the Chapter was lost. Then the provision in our Constitution prohibiting the use of substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch degree, has materially retarded the prosperity of many of the Chapters, stopped their work, and by this means much of the interest has been lost. Some of the Chapters have provided themselves with the

necessary furniture for conferring the Council degrees, and are working them in good shape, and in such there has been a marked increase of interest. It is to be regretted that all of them do not qualify themselves to confer and pay more attention to them.

"The Chapters are generally in a harmonious condition, and for the last few months there has been an increase in the work done and in the attendance."

Comp. Jedd P. C. Cottrill presented his report on Foreign Correspondence, which was read *in full*, and ordered to be printed with the Proceedings. This report reviews 38 proceedings, and is comprised of 50 pages of closely printed matter. The author must have been highly gratified at this extraordinary compliment to his labors. It proves that the Wisconsin Grand Chapter is composed of men of enlightened discernment, and of appreciative qualities.

The following resolution was then unanimously adopted:—

"*Resolved*,—That the thanks of this Grand Chapter should be and are hereby extended to Comp. J. P. C. Cottrill, for his admirable and instructive Report on Correspondence, and that the same be published with the Proceedings; and that we likewise congratulate ourselves and Comp. Cottrill that the advice he gave to Iowa was carried out in our Grand Chapter, viz: 'His report was read and listened to without anybody's going out.'"

In this report, Canada for 1879 receives a good notice. The "serving Companion" he alludes to was made a Royal Arch Mason by Dispensation, without the payment of any fees, in order to enable him to act as Janitor, or Tyler, there being no Companion in the Chapter willing to assume the duties of that office. We could not have a Janitor, who was not a Royal Arch Mason, and in such cases as the one referred to our Grand Z. has the power to grant a Dispensation to make a serving Companion, for that purpose.

M. E. Comp. Fred. Ring, Jr., (La Crosse), Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. John W. Woodhull (Milwaukee), Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

The following Table of Statistics is from the Report on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Maine:—

GRAND CHAPTERS.	No. of Subordinates.	Ditto making Returns.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions & Restorations.	Dismissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non- pay't Dues.	Deaths.	Rejections.
Alabama	43	35	802	20	25	32	0	5	68	22	4
Arkansas †.....	64	40	1,453	67	16	45	1	2	13	28	....
California.....	50	49	2,936	146	49	89	25	0	97	49	14
Canada.....	74	74	3,334	334	28	110	0	....	*64	36	....
Colorado.....	7	7	392	36	14	8	1	0	5	2	....
Connecticut.....	37	37	3,810	125	16	29	0	0	54	43	....
Delaware.....	6	6	323	10	4	1	0	....	*31	6	....
District of Columbia.....	8	8	1,052	59	14	23	1	0	74	14	4
Florida.....	8	5	192	13	6	7	0	....	*19	2	....
Georgia.....	50	43	1,484	27	24	63	3	....	*62	29	3
Illinois.....	168	157	10,000	522	152	308	19	....	*389	102	....
Indiana.....	92	83	4,543	174	21	134	11	6	92	61	....
Iowa.....	87	83	4,261	299	53	138	3	56	55	35	....
Kansas †.....	29	25	1,149	80	40	36	3	1	42	7	14
Kentucky.....	101	84	3,177	149	42	117	1	....	*196	45	2
Louisiana.....	29	23	1,126	15	7	21	1	....	*54	31	....
Maine.....	43	43	4,103	136	13	106	1	....	*69	38	8
Maryland.....	12	12	1,158	36	9	44	3	....	*79	18	....
Massachusetts.....	68	68	9,106	375	....	185	0	....	*196	113	....
Michigan.....	100	99	7,385	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Minnesota.....	33	30	1,756	114	27	28	0	0	48	13	....
Mississippi.....	75	49	1,378	44	41	37	0	1	5	60	....
Missouri.....	89	75	4,217	175	55	155	6	....	*92	40	6
Nebraska.....	17	16	726	41	55	30	1	....	*13	3	....
Nevada.....	8	8	391	33	14	20	0	3	10	10	8
New Hampshire.....	19	19	2,123	68	72	20	0	0	66	20	....
New Jersey.....	35	35	2,818	103	20	59	3	0	63	36	....
New York.....	190	188	16,741	662	171	325	4	6	1156	221	34
North Carolina.....	20	16	873	12	4	15	0	1	6	9	1
Nova Scotia.....	11	11	446	59	9	12	....	....	*7	4	....
Ohio.....	136	136	8,448	593	184	171	9	....	*436	87	....
Oregon.....	14	14	460	59	5	11	0	0	1	0	2
Pennsylvania.....	103	103	10,339	505	37	169	....	....	\$357	128	....
Quebec.....	9	8	435	32	5	23	....	....	*15	3	....
Rhode Island.....	10	10	1,621	18	2	1	0	0	0	16	6
South Carolina.....	21	21	607	20	6	23	0	1	51	8	....
Tennessee.....	93	75	3,271	59	37	72	2	12	37	81	....
Texas.....	92	92	3,756	178	108	167	7	....	98	51	....
Vermont.....	25	25	1,864	75	13	22	1	3	....	28	....
Virginia.....	37	28	1,486	98	47	60	0	....	*37	16	....
West Virginia.....	14	12	465	26	2	12	2	2	23	6	....
Wisconsin.....	53	53	2,128	152	44	64	1	....	*38	24	29
	2,180	2,005	128,196	5,653	1491	2983	190	99	4257	1545	125

* Including all suspensions. † Last year's figures: no statistics. ‡ Last year's figures; names of members published, but no numbers given, and we have not time to count them. § Including suspensions and expulsions.

It shows a falling off in the aggregate membership of about 5,000. A part of this is due to the dissolution of Chapters."

CONCLUSION.

In consequence of the change in the time of meeting of our Grand Chapter, from August to July, we are obliged to close this report earlier than formerly. We are thus prevented from noticing the Proceedings of the Grand Chapters which have not been received at this date, namely:—

ARKANSAS,.....	1879.
MISSOURI,.....	1879.
SOUTH CAROLINA,.....	1880.
TEXAS,.....	1879.
WEST VIRGINIA,.....	1879.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

COLLINGWOOD, Ont., July 2nd, 1880.

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ERRATA.

By an error of the printer, the head line of the Appendix, on pages 36, 42, 60, 80 and 90, reads "Grand Lodge," in place of "Grand Chapter."



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